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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

Library Economy and Bibliography

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MEMBER AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

VOL. 13.

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NO. 12.

C: A. CUTTER, R: R. BOWKER. *Editors.*

THE governing committee of the Ipswich (Eng.) Library have excluded "Robert Elsmere," on the ground that it is a dangerous book for people to read. We must allow that they did perfectly right, if we accept the theory that it is the duty of library authorities to see that their public reads nothing but true doctrine, and also that governing committees are by virtue of their office infallible judges of truth. "Robert Elsmere" is undoubtedly, from certain points of view, a very dangerous book; it may not convince its readers, but it will certainly make them think, and it is pleasant to see an English Congregationalist putting it into an Index expurgatorius. But we fear that their attempt at suppression will be unsuccessful. We have heard that a young ladies' college in this country was warned against the insidious book; and we were told at the same time that many of the pupils had already read it and the rest immediately borrowed it.

A CURIOUS example of the ordinary ideas about library buildings is given in R: Lovett's "Irish pictures," just issued by the Religious Tract Society, about Trinity College Library. "Along each side are recesses placed at right angles to the main axis of the room, filled with shelves, and arranged so as to combine very happily architectural effect with economy of space. The visitor, if at all literary in his sympathies, cannot fail to be charmed as his eye travels down the whole length of the room." In fact, in the view given of the interior, not a book is visible below the gallery except eight volumes lying on a table; in the gallery the ends of about a score of shelves are to be seen. The most prominent features are a double row of pilasters with a bust at the foot of each. This seemingly almost bookless library has no doubt books enough stored away in the alcoves, but it can hardly charm the visitor to think of climbing the ladders to get volumes from the top shelves, which must be at least twenty feet above the floor.

THE question proposed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of New York is very important. Shall the appropria-

tion made now for fifty years for district school libraries be given up? We should be entirely opposed to its discontinuance. On the contrary, it should be increased till it reaches a point where it will certainly do good. One of the two causes of the utter failure of the measure so far has been the meagreness of the sum available in each district. The total appropriation was large; but when divided into so many parts it was contemptible. Nobody cared for it because so little could be done with it. And this points to the second cause of waste. There was no one person responsible for the wise spending of the money, no person determined that, little as it was, it should do some good. The Legislature passed the appropriation with the common idea that when once money was supplied the school libraries would run themselves. Libraries do not run themselves. Two million dollars have been wasted, partly because they were not three, or four, or five millions, and partly because it fell into indifferent hands. We believe, therefore, that the particular plan of disposing of the money is not of so much importance as that its use should be made under watchful personal inspection and that strict accountability should be enforced. Any plan carried out under the eye of a competent head officer interested in the work and persistent in interesting the teachers in it, would produce great results in a few years. If possible, the plan should be elastic; at any rate, it should not be adopted as a finality, but with the intention of introducing any modifications which experience shows to be desirable.

OF the schemes proposed in the circular the most promising, in our opinion, is the one marked (d), provided the scheme is not so administered as to interfere with, instead of helping, local development in places ripe for the evolution of a locally supported library, which would prefer to buy its own books. It affords the surest guarantee that the money will be devoted to its true purpose, and that it will be spent to the best advantage. It secures, too, a better selection of books. The sum available is so small, and at the best is likely to continue so small, that the school authorities will not give the attention necessary to its wise use; it does not seem to them of sufficient importance; but to a central officer dealing with

the whole amount it would seem of very great importance. Of course, he should keep himself in touch with the school, and should welcome and, indeed, invite suggestions from all concerned. Besides this, there is no reason whatever why the best points in the other propositions should not be combined with this. The appropriation might, for instance, in some places, be held back for a time till sufficient had accumulated to purchase a library large enough to get the respect of the pupils. In other places, where local circumstances favored, several districts might be combined into one, with the same result of providing a library of respectable size. To this could be added a system of circulation such as has been found to work well in the ambulatory libraries of the West and in the lighthouse and ship libraries provided by government.

MR. DEWEY's appointment to the post of Secretary of the Board of Regents and Director of the New York State Library will doubtless result in the prosecution with great vigor of one of the plans embodied in the letter of the State Superintendent, as well as of other interesting experiments in the very large field which is thus opened to him. His five years' administration at Columbia has resulted in making the library of that institution an important factor in New York intellectual life, combining the functions of the university library and the public library in a remarkable degree. Coming to that post at the happy moment when an adequate building was just ready in which to gather the *disjecta membra* of a university collection from the several departments and schools where they had been hidden away, he made the place a focus of modern library improvements, in addition to founding the Library School. The library profession will watch with interest the development of his work in the broad field of New York State.

THE first number of the New Year will be a Special Record Number, of which the features will be a valuable paper on "Helps for catalogers in finding full names," by Mr. C. H. Hull, of Cornell; the first of a series on "Private libraries of New York," by Mr. Paul L. Ford; a series of plans of the important new libraries, including the Congressional, St. Louis Boston (we hope), and Quincy libraries; and such list of new libraries since the issue of the LIBRARY LIST as we can gather.

Communications.

CATALOGING WOMEN'S NAMES.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., Dec., 1888.

Miss Seymour's paper on entering the titles of English titled women does not leave the matter entirely correct yet, and as I have written to a lady of experience in England who is herself one of this puzzling group, it may interest librarians to have some minor points set right.

To put it mnemonically it may be said roughly that in the matter of titles an Englishwoman in marrying has everything to gain and nothing to lose. If she marries above her own rank she takes her husband's title in exchange for her own, if below her own rank she keeps her own title.

The title (by courtesy) of Lady, Miss Seymour treats correctly, I think; but the "Hon^{bles}" are far more puzzling to strangers. A Maid of Honor retains her Hon. after she is dismissed from service or after marriage, unless, of course, in the latter event, it is merged into a higher title. Thus if she marries a baronet she is the Hon^{ble} Lady Brown, if a peer The Lady So and So, in either case as tho she had been a peer's daughter. The wife of an earl's (or higher peer's) younger son is never the Hon^{ble} Lady; if she used the Lady before marriage in her own right she does not, of course, add anything by such marriage. But the wife of a younger son of a lower peer than an earl is Hon^{ble} Mrs. (not Lady)—the younger children of all peers using, of course, the family name with or without their Christian names, according to their rank.

Miss Seymour's fourth rule is obviously punctuated wrongly, the baronet's or knight's wife retaining her Hon. with her husband's title to show that this woman has "come down from above." It may be added that none of these courtesy titles are inherited by the children of those who bear them, the third generation of even the highest peer being simply commoners unless raised in rank by marriage or merit.

FREDK. WELLS WILLIAMS.

NOTES FROM CORRESPONDENTS.

THE FEDERALIST. — It has generally been supposed that the copy of M. Sablière's translation of the Federalist (Buesson, Paris, 1792), in its first edition — another appeared in the same year — was the only one extant. It is imperfect, and a copy which has recently reached John Bach McMaster has the same imperfection — p. ii-xvii of the introduction being missing. It is altogether probable that the entire edition had the same imperfection, as the second omits the preface, and in this, the first, page 1 of the constitution is substituted, in imposing the first form, for page ii of the preface, all the preface from and including page ii to and excluding page xvii being omitted. The Harvard College copy is noted in Lodge's Introduction, p. xxxvi.

TALCOTT WILLIAMS.

CIRCULATING BOOKS BY MAIL. — I find it easier, oftentimes, to get a book for consultation by mail from the General Theological Library, Boston, than to go to our seminary library for it. How many libraries send books by mail, and is the privilege abused?

A WORKER.

THE ART ELEMENT IN LIBRARY WORK.

BY MARY IMOGEN CRANDALL, OF THE N. Y. FREE CIRCULATING LIBRARIES.

THE present library renaissance seems to have confined itself pretty distinctly to two main lines of development, one of which is in the direction of the material prosperity of the library, the other in the direction of the spiritual well-being of the reader. What has been accomplished in each direction may be briefly indicated by the familiar dicta, the axioms of the library world, that the librarian should possess the qualities of the alert, energetic, and thoroughly trained man of business, and that he should be devoted heart and soul to all the interests of popular education and social reform, being pervaded, to use the Columbia expression, by the "missionary spirit." The advance in library administration seems due to an advance along these lines, to the use of those improved methods and appliances and to that wiser general management which have been the outgrowth of business ability, and to the discovery of those ethical aspects and opportunities of the profession which has opened such a fascinating field to the born teachers and reformers.

The question the present paper would raise is, whether with the business man and the "missionary" the library is supplied with all the men of whom it stands in need? Whether moral earnestness and general common sense are the only essential qualifications of the ideal librarian? Scholarship, certainly, to a greater or less degree — preferably to a greater — is an essential, but as it is one of the traditional and readily accepted *desiderata*, it raises no question to be discussed.

There is, however, a large class of persons for whom it is very difficult to find the fitting life-work; who may be teachers, reformers, scholars, *littérateurs*; who may be, though some will deny it, possessed of business ability, and in all these directions are fitted to be useful in the "people's university," but they are persons blessed, or cursed, with the artistic temperament. Their work must possess an element of beauty, must concern the questions of taste, must be something which they can love for its own sake, and which will continually be in the doing its own reward, something which, in Mr. Stevenson's happy phrase, gives rich pay in the "wages of life," or they are of all men most miserable. It is of these, who are not artists, but who are akin to artists, most nearly akin to the most catholic spirit of

all, the literary artist, that I would ask whether any such can find fitting and happy exercise of their distinctive faculties in the work of libraries, and whether libraries have need of any such. Does that love of beauty which clamors in so many of us find any legitimate satisfaction in the life of the librarian?

There will, I fancy, be a chorus of "Noes!" from the experienced and hard-headed. "These idle *dilettantes* are the very people we have been jeering at so long — we want none of them!" And a chorus of "Ayes" from the enthusiasts. "If your artistic friends can find happiness in love of their work, they can be happy with us!" The only solution, therefore, seems to lie in ascertaining whether the requirements of library work call in play art-sense and art-feeling. If they do, it is for the best interest of libraries to be supplied among their living forces with something which shall represent the art-force.

The sort of library which is typical in America, representing as it does both the majority of those which exist and those which should exist, is the library which is general in character and will always be so limited in scope that it becomes impossible to exercise that broad charity which Mr. Henry Stevens wished exercised toward every book as religiously as toward every human being. To form, and maintain from year to year, a library of the class which shall be representative and catholic, and which shall constitute a well-developed, symmetrical, organic whole, is a work which only an artist can perform, for it requires that feeling for proportion, fitness, adaptation, and excellence which is essentially artistic. For lack of this quality the actual condition of many libraries is that of some diseased, ill-proportioned, shapeless organism, vexed by parasitic growths and decaying members, and afflicted by corpulence of one part and anæmia of another.

Not only in the selection of books is there possible opportunity for the artistic temperament; the ever-recurring questions of classification, of cataloguing, the thousand and one questions of order and arrangement, are questions primarily of taste, requiring the nicest artistic sense for their best settlement. Doubtless, they are trivial questions — librarians are apt to forget that the fate of a nation may be more important than that of an *umlaut*, that a book may be a greater mat-

ter even than its title — but it is highly advantageous to the library and all its work to have these matters adjusted by a person whose sense of the fitness of things amounts to intuition. No other quality will be of greater value to a library than that quality of mind which must of necessity perpetually seek those "exquisite refinements of proficiency and finish which the artist so ardently desires and so keenly feels — for which day after day he recasts and revises and rejects."

The exercise of tact is in itself a fine art, and in more than one phase of library work it is brought in constant play. To be able to put one's self in touch with all sorts and conditions of men, to divine their needs, gauge their possibilities, awaken their interest, stimulate their ideas, is to be a rare and not wholly hypothetical genius. The libraries among the poor, among that most

difficult class of the poor who are not the poor in pocket, but the poor in thought and feeling, the poor in life, have a work waiting for such people, in which they will be quick to perceive the beauty amid the difficulties.

It will be said very justly that already many most honored in the library world belong to the class who possess artistic feeling; but the quality which makes them distinctively what they are has not been recognized. Ought it not to be recognized? Is it not plain that the art-fibre has its high function in the make-up of the person who shall compass the ideal administration of a library, as surely as the moral fibre or the common-sense fibre? Is it too fanciful to expect from a union of library economy and library science the coming of library art as a tiny nursling in the sisterhood of the humanities?

THE LIBRARIAN AN EDUCATOR, AND NOT A CHEAP-JOHN.

BY MAX COHEN.

I WAS greatly astonished when I read the brief note on "Business methods in libraries" from the pen of Mr. Schwartz in the November number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. I was, however, even more mortified than surprised at observing so efficient a librarian as he giving public expression to such a low ideal of a librarian's vocation as is there set forth.

Take, for instance, the two rules which he urges on the attention of librarians, as guides to inspire them in managing a library on business principles: "Don't try to force people to use what you think is best for them simply because you happen to like it yourself," and: "Buy only what your customers want, then you won't have any dead stock."

Can anything be more pernicious than the dissemination of such principles among the new generation of librarians; their inculcation among those librarians who are already too much lacking in that just realization of the possibilities of their position; or their enforcement upon the attention of library trustees, many of whom have as it is none too exalted a conception of the librarian's importance?

It would be fatal to the elemental principle of the Public Library if the idea should obtain that the librarian is a mere book-delivery machine, or an acquisition-registering and cataloging machine. "Library management" is not, as Mr. Schwartz claims it to be, "primarily and principally a business." The business — that is, that element which associates system and method with the manage-

ment — is an important factor, but the most important, the first, the last, and the highest factor, is the educational capacity evolved by the library.

Which of the many noble philanthropists who have in recent years endowed public libraries would have contributed one dollar of their benefactions if the institutions to which they contributed were to be conducted on such principles as Mr. Schwartz has elaborated? Their means were lavishly dispensed so that thereby the cause of higher culture could be furthered to a greater degree and among a larger number of people.

To take a very simple illustration of the working of Mr. Schwartz's rules: It surely makes a vast difference in the mental development of a boy whether he reads continually books by Alger, Castlemon, and Optic — and that is a course which many boys from 11 to 14, when left to themselves, do pursue — or whether they vary the reading of fiction exclusively, with occasional excursions to the books of Coffin, Knox, Buckley, Baldwin, Church, Lanier, Brooks, and Eggleston.

It is not, however, the boys alone who are prone to confine their reading to the poorest class of books. The majority of young women who utilize the public libraries have a natural tendency to devote their intellectual exercise and recreation to the most conspicuously trashy of novels. But supposing even they read a better class of fiction, is there any reason why they should not be led to read the best, or even to look once on one of those not altogether terrible things, a book that is not a novel?

That library is not at all performing its proper functions which does not inspire some of its readers to an improvement in the character of their reading. That librarian is not properly fulfilling the duties and meeting the responsibilities of his position, who does not contribute in some manner to such a result. A stationer who opens a circulating library in his store may perhaps govern himself by the rules laid down by Mr. Schwartz, but not any library which would justify for itself the use of the title "public."

The number of books given out, be it ever so great, is no measure of the skilful management it enjoys, or the usefulness to the public which it subserves. There is such a thing as circulating a large quantity of printed matter whose influence may be detrimental. Such would unquestionably be the result if the library's acquisitions were limited to the purchase of books that the readers want.

The most curious thing about Mr. Schwartz's note is, however, his first rule, which reads as follows: "Keep nothing you would be ashamed to use yourself, then you won't have to apologize for furnishing it to your customers." I fail to see how the commendation of the personal element implied in this rule, to be exercised by the librarian, can be reconciled with the condemnation of the exercise of this personal element involved in the third rule.

But the fallacy concealed within the folds of the first rule, and therefore underlying the others, is the classification of books into those which the librarian would be ashamed to use, and those which he would not be ashamed to use. A librarian need not be ashamed of reading one of Marlitt's novels, and yet it is his duty to induce those who feed solely on that class of intellectual provender to taste of something better.

LIBRARY SHELVES.

SHELVES when immovably fixed necessitate either that there shall be much waste space in a library, or that books of a class may not be put together on the same shelf. If much space is left above each shelf then the top shelf is liable to be carried up above easy reach.

Movable shelves allow the greatest economy in shelf space, but to make this advantage very available where changes are frequent, there must be great facility for moving a shelf and its supports.

One of the oldest methods is that of the toothed piece of wood at each corner of a shelf with cross-bars. This is the most objectionable form, as it occupies valuable space, and, too, the bars often stick to place, or will not readily go into new spaces. Moreover the ratchets injure the binding.

The pin system is extensively used, but it is perhaps not necessary to say much against its use, except what may be found further on.

The screw-eye involves much labor and skilled "engineering" to make changes.

The first two systems do not, as a rule, admit of closer adjustment of shelves than from $\frac{3}{4}$ in. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.

In the Providence Public Library a system of metal racks and supports has been in use about ten years, which admits of instant and easy adjustment to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. It is reported as having given perfect satisfaction there.¹

Vertical grooves are made in the uprights,

four for each division, $\frac{1}{4}$ in. deep by $\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide near the corner of the shelves. Iron racks are put into these grooves $\frac{1}{8}$ in. below the surface, and are made continuous by short sections, $9\frac{1}{4}$ in. each. They are held in place both by a pin, made on each rack, and by the use of barbed blind staples.

Four supports, one for each corner of a shelf, rest in the grooves, $\frac{1}{16}$ in. below the surface, with projecting pins, which pins go into recesses in the under side of a shelf; these recesses are $\frac{1}{8}$ in. deep and are made by boring the ends of two shelves, when clamped together, for a $\frac{5}{8}$ in. hole, $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long, thus giving a space wider than it is deep to allow for any slight inaccuracy, or for the shrinking or swelling of the wood.

The supports cannot fall from place, as a flat spring is permanently attached to each. When a shelf rests upon the supports it locks itself and them to place.

To a shelf loaded with books may be added the weight of a man hanging by his hands, and there is still ample strength in excess of that.

To adjust a shelf up or down it is only necessary to remove two or three books at each end of the shelf below the one to be moved, and then move the supports up or down. All the exposed parts are $\frac{1}{4}$ in. below the surface.

The grooves in the uprights and the recesses in the under sides of the shelves are made by power machinery such as any planing mill has. The racks can be rapidly put in by hand.

Of course when books are marked by the Cutter book numbers and kept on shelves of a fixed distance apart (26 cm. for the O and smaller sizes, 31 for Q, and over 31 for F) there is no need of moving any but the two or three lower shelves, and it is seldom worth while to move them. Countersunk screw-eyes are a good enough support in such cases for the lower shelves; the upper may as well be immovable.

¹ The invention is patented by Scott A. Smith, Providence, R. I. The price is 25 cts. per shelf (*i.e.* for 4 racks, 4 supports, and 4 springs), with a discount of 50 per cent. on large quantities.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE laying of the corner-stone of the new Public Library Building in Copley Square, Boston, on November 28, was an occasion of no ordinary interest.

The library collection of 16,221 volumes was opened for public service in May, 1854, in rooms provided by the city for this purpose in the old Mason Street school-house. The donations of Joshua Bates, of London, in 1853, of \$50,000, for the purchase of books of a permanent value, and of another sum of \$50,000, the income of which was to be devoted to the same object, and of the Jonathan Phillips Trust Fund of \$10,000, opened up a future for such a large collection of works valuable to scholars and students as to induce the city government to erect the Boylston Street edifice, dedicated for public service on 1st January, 1858, which then contained about 70,000 volumes and nearly 18,000 pamphlets. The commissioners who had charge of its erection were: Robert C. Winthrop, President; Samuel G. Ford, Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, Edward Everett, Pelham Bonney, Joseph A. Pond and William Parkman. Edward Everett was also President of the Board of Trustees. Among the other donors of books were Abbott Lawrence, Edward Everett, George Ticknor, and John P. Bigelow; and the generosity of these men has been rivalled by a long list of later benefactors. It is now filled to nearly its utmost capacity with 357,440 volumes, making this the largest free lending library in the world.

The establishment of the branch system, which comprises, as previously stated, 135,516 volumes, free for public circulation, increased to a very large degree the usefulness of the institution.

For some years previous to 1880 it had become apparent that the time was fast approaching when the accommodations for the storage of books and for the convenience of the public would be entirely unsatisfactory and insufficient in the Boylston Street edifice, so that in that year the State of Massachusetts made the noble grant to the city "of a parcel of land, now owned by the Commonwealth," on the southerly corner of Dartmouth and Boylston Streets. This land being deemed insufficient for the size of the structure which it would be necessary to erect, the Commonwealth by an act passed April 10, 1880, empowered the city of Boston "to take and hold by purchase or otherwise, so much land within its limits as it may deem necessary for the erection thereon of a public library, and a yard for the same." Under this

act the city acquired the remainder of the land situated to the south, bounded by St. James Street, and of the same depth as the property granted by the Commonwealth.

The condition annexed to its grant by the State was that a suitable building should be begun in the course of three years — which time was extended, in 1883, for a further term of the same duration. A beginning was made just before the limit of time had expired, the construction of the edifice having been placed by the city government in the hands of Mr. A. H. Vinal, the City Architect.

The Commonwealth, which had given the larger and more valuable portion of the land to the city of Boston, then intervened, and placed the whole responsibility of the structure upon the Trustees of the Library in the following carefully drawn section of Chapter 60 of the Acts of 1887: "The said Board of Trustees shall have full power and control of the design, construction, erection, and maintenance of the Central Public Library Building to be erected in the city of Boston, and are hereby fully authorized and empowered to select and employ an architect or architects to design said building and supervise the construction, and a Superintendent or Superintendents to take charge of and improve the work; but work upon said building shall not be commenced until full general plans of the building have been prepared, and no specific work shall be commenced until the same shall have been duly advertised, proposals for such work shall have been received from responsible parties, and contracts shall have been entered into with satisfactory guarantees for their performance." . . .

Under the powers committed to them the Trustees appointed as architects of the proposed structure the well-known firm of McKim, Meade & White, of New York, who established a branch office in Boston and have been assiduously at work, with a large force of draughtsmen, upon the plans and drawings. It will be seen by the act of incorporation that the general plans must be finished before the building can be begun. On no other conditions could the judgment of the Trustees be safely exercised. There could be no undue haste permitted in preparing complete plans of construction for a monumental building designed to meet the conjectural wants of an unknown future. The provision for coming time must be based upon the experience of the present necessities of the institution, and of the enlargement of its administration requisite to insure the

same freedom of use that has caused its remarkable growth in value and usefulness even in its present confined limits.¹

The formal placing of the stone in position was preceded by exercises in the Old South Church, which was well filled with Boston people. A few minutes after the hour of noon the exercises began. Seated in the pulpit were Mr. S. A. B. Abbott, President of the trustees of the Public Library; Mayor O'Brien, ex-Mayor Prince, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, and the Rev. Dr. George A. Gordon, pastor of the Old South Church. The front pews of the church were reserved for the members of the State and city governments and other invited guests. Mr. Abbott called the company to order and called upon the Rev. Dr. Gordon to invoke the Divine blessing. After the invocation President Abbott said: "Our distinguished fellow-citizen, Dr. Holmes, has kindly written a poem for this occasion, which I will now ask him to read." Mr. Holmes acknowledged the applause that greeted him by bowing, and then read the poem in a clear voice, so that every one in the church could hear him plainly.

Proudly beneath her glittering dome
Our three-hilled city greets the morn;
Here freedom found her virgin home —
The Bethlehem where her babe was born.

The lordly roofs of traffic rise
Amid the smoke of household fires;
High o'er them in the peaceful skies
Faith points to heaven her clustering spires.

Can Freedom breathe if Ignorance reign?
Shall Commerce thrive where Anarchy rule?
Will Faith her half-fledged brood retain
If darkened counsels cloud the school?

Let in the light! From every age
Some gleams of garnered wisdom pour,
And fixed on thought's electric page,
Wait all their radiance to restore.

Let in the light! In diamond mines
Their gems invite the hand that delves;
So Learning's treasured jewels shine,
Ranged on the alcove's ordered shelves.

From History's scroll the splendor streams,
From Science leaps the living ray;
Flashed from the poet's glowing dreams
The opal fires of Fancy play.

Let in the light! These windowed walls
Shall brook no shadowing colonnades;
But day shall flood the silent halls
Till o'er yon hills the sunset fades.

Behind the ever-open gate
No pike shall fence a crumbling throne,
No lackeys cringe, no courtiers wait —
This palace is the people's own!

Heirs of our narrow-girdled past,
How fair the prospect we survey,
Where howled unheard the wintry blast,
And rolled unchecked the storm-swept bay!

These chosen precincts, set apart
For learned toil and holy shrines,
Yield willing homes to every art
That trains or strengthens or refines.

¹ The foregoing account has been taken from the Annual Report of the trustees, printed as City Document [Boston] No. 40, 1888.

Here shall the sceptred mistress reign
Who heeds her lowliest subject's call,
Sovereign of all their vast domain,
The queen, the handmaid of them all.

Applause followed the reading and then Mr. Abbott introduced ex-Mayor F. O. Prince, who, representing the trustees, was delegated to turn over the beginning of the great work to the city, personated by its chief magistrate, Mayor O'Brien. In delivering the silver trowel with which the Mayor was to lay the stone, Mr. Prince made an elaborate address from which the following extracts are made:

ADDRESS OF F. O. PRINCE.

"It is remarkable that Boston, ever more than abreast of other communities in thought and action touching all the great questions, religious, moral, political, scientific, literary, and philanthropic, which interests thinking minds — which shows so much intelligent forecast in most matters of public concern — is too often contented to provide for the present, without proper consideration of the demands which her constant and rapid growth makes necessary. We seem reluctant to believe that the city is to be a metropolis, and make no adequate disposition for such contingency. If we had had more Quincys to prepare Boston for her future she would have been even more beautiful than she now is, with vastly greater facilities for her enterprising merchants and bankers. But a different spirit is now obtaining, and a different policy will, I think, hereafter control in municipal affairs. Boston is to be more metropolitan. Progress is not to be retarded in the future, as in the past, by doubts and fears. We have evidence of this in the liberal provision of our City Council for the new library building."

Mr. Prince also called attention to the fact that the Boston Public Library was the first in the world to allow its books to be taken home to the houses of the people, and that it was this feature of freeness that led Joshua Bates, one of the greatest benefactors of the library, to make his first donation of \$50,000 for the purchase of books. The speaker also said that Boston had always responded to the admonition of the Constitution to cherish the institutions of learning, and continued:

"During all her history, and especially her municipal history, she has contributed most liberally to the support of school-houses and schools, and encouraged in every way the diffusion of knowledge. She has withheld nothing which could improve her educational system and increase its efficiency; she has been especially liberal to the free Public Library — recognizing its value as an ally of the public schools in the education of the people — and it may be asserted, without fear of contradiction, that no community has given and gives greater encouragement to learning by honoring those who have become distinguished in literature, in art, and in science. As the diffusion of knowledge did so much in establishing republican institutions, it will be found

equally potent as a conservative force in perpetuating them. I have spoken of the value to the State as a conservative force of the diffusion of knowledge. Permit me a word touching its value to the people in the daily work of life. The great mass of mankind live by physical labor, and must do so. Skilled labor has vastly the advantage over unskilled labor. 'Knowledge is power,' Bacon tells us, and there is no calling or employment in which knowledge, more or less, is not required for its successful prosecution. As civilization advances, and science reveals its principles for art to apply in its countless creations, the wants of men rapidly augment; but labor cannot expect employment for the supply of these wants unless it be intelligent and skilled. He, therefore, who would better his condition and raise himself to places above that of the hewer of wood and drawer of water must get knowledge, must cultivate his mind and store it with useful learning."

Mr. Prince concluded his address as follows:

"Mr. Mayor, you have been the constant friend of the free Public Library, as you have been the constant friend of our free public schools. In office and out of office, your interest in it has never abated. Ever ready to appreciate its needs, you have done all in your power to supply them. It is fitting, therefore, and appropriate that you should take the chief part in the placing of the corner-stone of this magnificent edifice. The trustees invite you to do so, and for the purpose present you this trowel."

Mr. O'Brien, taking the silver trowel which bore this inscription: "This trowel was used for the laying of the corner-stone of the new Public Library building of Boston, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 1888," responded substantially as follows:

ADDRESS OF MAYOR O'BRIEN.

"Jan. 1, 1858, was a memorable day for Boston. On that day the new Public Library building on Boylston Street was dedicated in the presence of a large audience. The corner-stone was laid on the seventeenth day of September, 1855, and on the first day of January, 1858, the completed building was dedicated—a little more than two years after the corner-stone was laid. In the language of that day, 'Never in the history of the city have the portals of any of its edifices been opened to the public with more joy or with greater promise of future usefulness and prospects of real benefit to the whole community.'

"At that time some 60,000 volumes from four different places of temporary deposit found a resting-place in the new building. This was a remarkable beginning thirty years ago, but its remarkable growth in a generation has far surpassed the anticipation of its founders. The principal donors of these 60,000 volumes were Joshua Bates, Jonathan Phillips, Abbott Lawrence, Edward Everett, George Ticknor, John P. Bigelow; and the generosity of these men has been followed by a long list of benefactors, indicating that our free Public Library has always stood high, and now stands high, in the estimation of our citizens. The 60,000 volumes in 1858 has increased to nearly 500,000 volumes in 1888. What

a wonderful increase! A generation only has passed away, and that generation has built up the largest free Public Library in the world. All honor to the living and the dead who have been engaged in this noble work!

"Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, then in the prime of manhood, the only member of the commission now living—and I know that I express the heartfelt wish of every citizen of Boston, and I might say of the citizens of the entire country, for our Winthrop has a national reputation, that his life may be spared for many years to come—delivered the opening address on presenting the keys to the Mayor.

"The library then dedicated was to be a resort not only for the citizens of that day, but for countless generations. The building erected on Boylston Street was, in its day, compared with other public buildings, a large, commodious, and elegant structure. I am not surprised that it then appeared large enough, with a capacity of about 300,000 volumes, to accommodate our citizens for many generations to come; but to the credit of our city be it said, that the demand on our library has been such, that for some years it has been altogether inadequate to accommodate the public, and to-day we put in position the corner-stone of a new and enlarged building, and I am satisfied the citizens of Boston could not be engaged in a more noble work. What another generation may bring about it is, perhaps, useless to predict. Our city is growing rapidly in population and wealth, and from the success of our free library and the establishment of other free libraries in the leading cities and towns in the country, I am also satisfied there is a corresponding increase in intelligence and knowledge. Our growth has been so rapid during these thirty years, there is one thing we must not forget—we must build not only for the present, but also for the future; and I am satisfied that the new building will fully realize our expectations.

"Mr. Joshua Bates, the principal benefactor of our Public Library, when presenting his magnificent gift to the city, made a condition, 'that it should be free to all, with no other restrictions than are necessary for the preservation of the books.' He also expressed the wish that the building shall be such as shall be an ornament to the city. I believe and have always maintained, that while its interior should be arranged with all modern appliances for the accommodation of students, scholars, and others who seek its treasures, and for the delivery of books, its exterior should be the most attractive building in the city. I am satisfied that our taxpayers will not find fault with the cost, if the building comes up to this standard.

"Gentlemen of the Board of Trustees, I hope the work will now rapidly proceed to completion. I have only one more suggestion to make. If Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, who delivered the address on the dedication of the library building on Boylston Street, is alive and well when this new structure is completed, that he should be requested to deliver the address on the dedication."

The Benediction by Rev. Mr. Gordon closed the exercises in the church.

The trustees, officials, and guests then passed

out of the church and across the street to the platform, on the new library site, and there the corner-stone was laid. The stone was suspended over the foundation, and in the solid masonry under it two copper boxes were placed containing the following :

1. Public Library of the city of Boston. Proceedings at the laying of the corner-stone, Sept. 17, 1855.
2. Proceedings at the dedication of the building for the Public Library, Jan. 1, 1858.
3. Acts and ordinances relating to the Public Library, together with the by-laws of the corporation, 1887, and "Handbook for Readers," containing the regulations of the library; new edition; 1883.
4. Extracts from the records of the trustees of the Public Library of the city of Boston relating to the new library on Copley Square, March 22, 1887, to Oct. 25, 1888.
5. Heliotype plans of the new Public Library, building.
6. Annual reports, Boston Public Library 1877-87.
7. All forms used in administering the library.
8. Boston municipal register, 1888.
9. City auditor's report for 1887-88.
10. Report of school committee.
11. Boston Directory, 1888.

12. Bronze medal commemorative of the 250th anniversary of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company.

13. Invitation and ticket of admission and order of exercises.

14. Poem by Dr. O. W. Holmes; addresses by the Hon. F. O. Prince and his Honor the Mayor.

15. Photographs of the trustees, of William W. Greenough, his honor the Mayor, and the Common Council.

16. A silver plate with this inscription: "The corner-stone of the second building for the Public Library of the city of Boston, laid on the 28th day of November." Trustees of the library—Samuel A. B. Abbott, President; Henry W. Haynes, William H. Whitmore, Frederick O. Prince, Phineas Pierce. Librarian—Mellen Chamberlain. Architects—McKim, Meade & White.

Copper box, $16\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ inches, containing a copy of all the newspapers and periodicals published in Boston.

At 1.30 o'clock Mayor O'Brien dipped the silver trowel into a mortar bucket and spread the mortar over the stone. The gentlemen on the platform also used the trowel deftly in depositing the mortar, and then at a signal the corner-stone was lowered into place, and the ceremonies were ended.

THE PROVIDENCE COMMERCIAL CLUB DISCUSSION ON LIBRARIES.

THE Commercial Club of Providence, an organization formed after the analogy of the Boston Commercial Club, at its monthly dinner on the evening of Nov. 17, considered the subject of "The influence of libraries." The speakers of the evening, invited as guests of the club, were Prof. J. L. Lincoln, of Brown University, the Rev. A. Woodbury, D.D., the Rev. Fr. C. J. Burns, of the Cathedral, and Mr. W. E. Foster, librarian of the Public Library. Both in the arguments of these gentlemen, and those of the two members of the club who followed them with a few brief remarks (Senator Aldrich and Senator Chace), a less general and more definite direction was given to the subject than is indicated in the form above announced—it being largely a consideration of the needs of the Providence Public Library.

Dr. Woodbury, after a felicitous reference to the notable cases in which literary tastes and commercial pursuits had been successfully conjoined in the same individual (instancing W. Roscoe, S. Rogers, and G. Grote, and, in this country, Edmund C. Stedman, Edwin P. Whipple, and C. Sprague, and among Rhode Islanders, Rowland G. Hazard, Rowland Hazard, W. B. Weedon, and others), passed to a

consideration of the very interesting fact that while not every business man could personally add to literature by his own productions, the interests of literature could be—and in great numbers of cases have been—advanced by the endowment of libraries (especially libraries for the people) by business men. As illustrating this tendency, which is becoming each year more pronounced, he cited among the earlier instances, the generous gift of Joshua Bates, which set the Boston Public Library on its feet, the Astor, Peabody, and Lenox gifts, respectively of \$1,200,000, \$1,265,000, and \$2,100,000, and the Cooper Institute, of about \$1,000,000. Coming to more recent years, he cited the Newberry gift to Chicago, of over \$4,000,000, the Pratt gift to Baltimore, of more than \$1,000,000, and the "Tilden trust" for New York, which, by the recent decision of the New York Supreme Court, has over \$5,000,000 available for its purposes. Among the other instances cited were the Osterhout gifts to Wilkes-Barre, Pa., of \$400,000, the Carnegie library building for Allegheny, Pa., \$260,000, the Rindge gift to Cambridge, the Howard gift to New Orleans, and smaller but very noteworthy gifts and bequests in various other places. Dr. Woodbury quoted the finely expressed sentiment of a con-

temporary writer—"What more fitting memorial than a library? We erect monuments and also hospitals, but a library has more voices than any other memorial." He closed his remarks with the declaration that "the public library has as much to do with public education as the public schools," and that if supported as they are, it will "have a wider scope, and its results will be multiplied one hundred fold."

Mr. Foster, in the course of his remarks, referred to the exceptionally large registration which had taken place from the beginning (more than 36,000), as a testimony to the extent to which the library had appealed to the interest of the whole community; instancing also, as another evidence of this interest, the large number of valuable special gifts of books which it has received during the ten years past. Among these special gifts were mentioned those from Senator Anthony, J. J. Cooke, the Paine and Allen gifts, the Jones gift of an Italian collection, and, in particular, the Harris collection on slavery and the rebellion, now numbering more than 10,000 pieces, one of the very few really important collections on the subject in the country. Passing to the service which a modern public library aims to render to the community, he said that "this service could not be stated in a single word—so many-sided is the problem. Yet it may in brief be said that the library aims to bring its resources to bear at every point where the need exists; and this, in a city of so multiform and diverse interests as this, means a great deal." After dwelling at some length on the preëminence of the manufacturing interests of the city, particularly of those requiring exceptional skill and intelligence in the artisan, he said that "every citizen of Providence has felt a real pride in the honor and credit reflected upon our city by such industries as, for example, the Brown and Sharpe and the Gorham Manufacturing Companies. It may well be the pride of the citizens, likewise, to build up as a part of their public library a department of such works as, when made accessible to the mechanic, to the manufacturer, to the merchant, shall render our processes of industry and trade more intelligent, more effective, and more directly contributive to the wider interests of our city."

Senator Aldrich and Senator Chace, who spoke briefly, laid especial emphasis on the service of which the library had been to the city during its existence thus far, and the need which existed for a support commensurate with its deserts.

THE NIEDRINGHAUS MEMORIAL BUILDING AT ST. LOUIS, MO.

*Abridged from *Stoves and Hardware*.*

In 1886, when Walter Niedringhaus, son of W. F. Niedringhaus, Secretary of the St. Louis Stamping Company, St. Louis, died, when just about to reach his majority, the thought came to Mr. W. F. Niedringhaus that a library and gymnasium, with a hall where entertainments and lectures could be given, in the neighborhood where his son's life-work would have been, had he lived, and for the benefit of those employed in the establishment where he had spent much of his time, would be a most fitting memorial. To obtain an insight into the workings of a somewhat similar establishment. Mr. Niedringhaus and his brother visited the Stetson Free Gymnasium and Library at Philadelphia.

Their idea did not stop at free library and gymnasium. They realized that mere physical exercise and the use of a comfortable reading-room, with access to books, no matter how interesting, would of themselves lack the variety that always attracts. Therefore, they widened and extended the original idea from time to time, as the suggestions came to them.

They were fortunate to find within three blocks from their works a piece of ground admirably adapted to the purpose, and they at once took measures to secure it. A. Beinke, the architect, was instructed to prepare plans. Before this time next year the opening of the establishment to the public is counted upon.

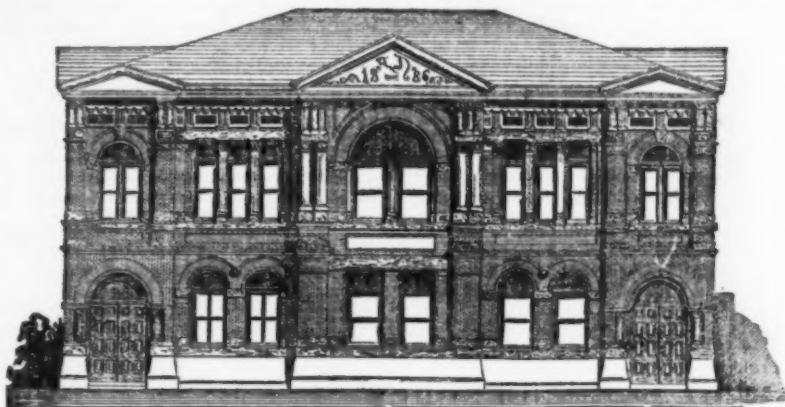
The building is to have a frontage of 65 feet, with a depth of 110 feet, not including the gymnasium, which will be built as an addition. The windows are closely distributed over the front, and 20 to a side, so that the interior will be excellently lighted. Those in front will be of cathedral glass.

To the right of the main entrance is the directors' room, 15 x 20 feet. To the left of this is the library and reading-room, 28 x 20 feet, both having high ceilings, with windows nearly all the way up from the floor.¹ On each side of these rooms are wide stairs of gradual ascent leading to the gallery and basement. Back of them is the lecture-room, 60 x 60 feet, of an elongated, semi-circular shape. The platform is planned to occupy 25 x 18 feet. On each side of the stage are class-rooms, each 12 x 17 feet, which can be utilized as dressing-rooms in case of amateur theatricals or costume concerts. The lecture-room is provided with seats for 1300 people.

The second story is in reality a gallery, similar to the first gallery in any properly designed theatre, and has a seating capacity of 400. The floor also inclines toward the front, so that as good a view of the stage can be obtained from the rear seats as from the front.

The front part of the basement is designed for the dining-room. It is 50 x 81 feet, thoroughly lighted. In the rear is the kitchen, 22 x 18 feet.

¹ [It is much more important that they should be all the way down from the ceiling. — EDS. L. J.]



THE NIEDRINGHAUS MEMORIAL BUILDING, ST. LOUIS.

and along one side, adjoining the kitchen and dining-room, is a bowling-alley.

The gymnasium will have everything necessary to a thoroughly equipped gymnasium. The baths will enable several hundred persons to bathe each day.

In the dining-room from 300 to 400 people can be fed at one time. One side of the library will have a file rack for newspapers and magazines; one, the office set aside for the librarian, and the other two, shelves for books.

The lecture-room will be fitted up equal to any theatre in the city. The seats are to be of the latest opera-chair pattern, with folding backs and bottoms, with hat supports underneath. Those in the centre and directly opposite the stage will have smaller seats for the little folks.

With the gymnasium and bath-room annex it will be the most complete and handsomest institution of the kind in this country, and will set an example that may be followed by other individual manufacturers or manufacturing companies. The total cost of the building and furnishings, exclusive of the library, will not fall short of \$20,000.

In somewhat similar institutions the interest displayed by those for whom they were founded has generally been spasmodic and uncertain, because of a lack of novel and changeable features. Generally they have consisted merely of a gymnasium and reading-room, and only those devoted to study or skill in physical exercise were persistent in attendance. As a rule, they offered no attractions equal to those of home to the women and girls, and consequently the married men seldom attended, as they did not feel justified in deserting the hearthstone for pleasures in which their wives and daughters could take no part. The Messrs. Niedringhaus, in their investigations, saw this, and in providing for it have done that which will make their enterprise a success. The kitchen and dining-room is naturally the women's field, although, of course,

the institution is founded for them as much as for the men. Here they can give their socials and festivals. Should the wives of the members of any lodge desire to raise money for some commendable purpose, or should the ladies of North St. Louis have some charitable object in view that requires funds, these rooms will always be open to them for socials or festivals, and the proceeds, hence, be clear profit, as they will have nothing to pay for hall, heating, or light. Or should a social hop be given, the dining-room floor could easily be cleared for the purpose. The concert hall, heated and lighted, is accessible for amateur theatricals and concerts in the same way. There are a large number of young ladies in the employ of the St. Louis Stamping Company, and they, with the wives and daughters of the workmen, will find in these directions an unlimited scope of profitable and happy work. The employees also have among themselves several societies, and the hall is to be opened for their meetings, rent free.

Lectures will be provided for the winter season. On Sundays a union Sunday-school will be inaugurated, the song-books, lesson-leaves, and pictorial charts to be furnished, and music made a prominent feature. On Sunday evenings it is likely that there will be lectures on moral subjects, which, of course, will be purely non-sectarian.

The greatest care is to be exercised in the selection of the library, and it will include treatises on all subjects, as well as fiction, history, travels, and biographies. Its doors are to be open to all, whether employees of the St. Louis Stamping Company or not, who are known to be worthy of the privilege. Books can be taken out for a limited period, say for ten days or two weeks, the borrower, of course, being responsible for loss or damage. As regards works on invention, machinery, construction, chemistry, and scientific subjects, it will be the most complete free library in the West, and selected with a view of making text-books and treatises on these

subjects accessible to all interested. Many of these books will be very rare and valuable, as the illustrations will form a large part of the contents. It is easy to foresee the beneficial results that will be effected by this feature. An interest must be created in the whys and wherefores of the details of manufacture, and the workman will no longer be content with the mere automatic knowledge of knowing how to do a thing; he will want to know the reasons back of it. Thus, even those who at first will take no interest in such study, will become interested in the conversation of those who do, and ultimately lead them into studying the matter for themselves. In course of time, if the interests of the workmen warrant it, an experimental workshop may be added.

The newspapers and magazines will include everything, from the daily papers to the literary, scientific, mechanical, and trade journals.

The management of the institution is to be in the hands of a board of directors, in which the employees will have representation, and which will meet at least once a week to discuss measures and adopt plans for the pleasure and instruction of its beneficiaries.

While the institution is primarily for the employees of the St. Louis Stamping Company, it will be open to any well-behaved person, who can have the benefits of all its privileges, and will doubtless be warmly appreciated by all the people living in the vicinity. It will be absolutely free, there being no assessments for anything, and although the annual cost of maintaining it must involve heavy expenses, they will be borne entirely by W. F. and F. G. Niedringhaus.

THE HOLDEN (MASS.) HIGH SCHOOL AND LIBRARY.

THE building, the munificent gift of S. C. and Mrs. Susan A. Gale, of Minneapolis, to the town of Holden, occupies one of the most eligible sites in the town. It is designed to supply two pressing needs of the town — better accommodations for the high school and a public library. Its architect is Stephen C. Earle, of Worcester. The style is Romanesque, of a rustic, vigorous character suited to the material, a local granite. It is laid in random work, with seam faces of many tints, and pointed with red joints. The rustic character is emphasized in the huge uncut boulder which serves the purpose of buttress at the end of the steps to the main entrance, and also by a smaller boulder built into and boldly projecting from the tower wall, and bearing the inscription, "Damon Memorial, A.D. 1888." For sills, lintels, arches, and other parts requiring more or less cutting, Kibber brown-stone has been used, which makes a very agreeable combination with the native granite. It has been left uncut as far as possible, with the notable exception of a curved panel 5 x 8 ft., placed in the middle of a large space in the south wall. This panel, a spirited and beautiful work, designed and executed by Evans & Tombs, of Boston, has for its motive the enlightening influence of education, represented by an advancing figure, floating

rather than walking, carrying a flaming torch in the right hand, and in the left an open book. In a quaint, bold inscription at the left is the legend "Let there be light," and corresponding on the other side, "Character is destiny." Two separate entrances from the porch have wide arched doorways, in the stone transoms of which, respectively, are cut the words "School" and "Library." For the library, we enter the tiled vestibule, 7 x 8 ft., and from this the space railed off from the main room, to be used as a waiting-room. The room devoted to the storage of books, like the story throughout, is 14 ft. high, occupies the southwest corner of the building, and is 31 x 40 ft. It is separated from the waiting-room by a screen, the upper part of which consists of an arch of open timber work, the lower part being the desk for the delivery of books, and the supplementary railing. At the northwest corner of the building, and connecting with the book-room, is the librarian's work-room, about 12 x 25 ft.; it has an outside door.

The southeast corner of the building is reserved for the reading-room, which is 20 x 28½ ft., besides its semicircular bay projecting 7 feet on the south side, opposite the entrance. It adjoins the back-room and the waiting-room, being separated from each by glazed screen-work. It is a most attractive room, with its ample fireplace and handsome oak mantel chimney-corner seat, tinted walls, and delicately shaded stained glass transoms. A low case for books of reference fills the whole of the north side, and a large table for periodicals stands in the middle of the room.

The building has steam-heating apparatus for both direct and indirect radiation.

The carpenter work has been done by Emory Rogers, of Holden, who has also had general charge of the whole work. Thomas Hennessy, of Holden, did the stone-work, F. C. Markham, of Providence, furnishing the brown-stone. Peter Carr, of Holden, did the brick-work and plastering, and Amasa Ballou, of Worcester, the painter's work. The roofing was done by Geo. A. Barnard, of Worcester. The stained glass was furnished by Redding Baird & Co., of Boston. The fireplaces were built and tiles laid by J. B. Bradford, of Worcester, the materials for which were furnished by the New England Anderson Pressed Brick Company, C. A. Wellington & Co., and the Boston Terra-Cotta Company, of Boston.

S: C. Gale, was born at Royalston, Sept. 15, 1827. He was descended from the ancient family of Gales, of Devonshire, England, running back to William the Conqueror. The earliest immigrant to America was William Gale, who settled in Watertown, Mass., in 1640. S: C. Gale was educated first in Royalston, then at New Salem Academy, and in 1854 he was graduated at Yale College. After graduation he taught in the winter school at Holden, then at the Worcester High School, and after this he went to the Harvard Law School, where he studied law. Between 1855 and 1860 he went to Minneapolis, and there entered upon the practice of law. While at Holden he had made the acquaintance of Susan Abigail Damon, whom, Oct. 15, 1861, he mar-

ried. Mr. Gale invested in real estate not long after settling in Minneapolis, and from the great rise in this is due the wealth of which he makes so generous use. It has been said as coming from him that he had fully seven millions of dollars.

Mr. Gale still keeps up his interest in the old pupils who were under him while at Holden. His old scholars speak particularly of the thorough training he gave, especially in reading. After the recitations were over he used often to lecture to the classes, which was quite a change in the system of teaching in the winter school of the village. He shows in all his business dealings energy and determination.

N. Y. DISTRICT LIBRARIES.

MR. A. S. DRAPER, Superintendent of Public Instruction, has issued the following circular, dated Dec. 1:

"From 1839 to the present time the Legislature has annually appropriated either \$50,000 or \$55,000 to be apportioned among the school districts of the State to purchase books for school libraries. In this way there has been paid out for this purpose the total sum of \$2,740,000. During this period the reports show that there has been actually expended for libraries the sum of \$1,985,144. Even the difference between these two sums does not show the amount which has been diverted from the purpose for which the appropriation is annually made, for the fact is undisputed that moneys reported as expended for libraries are frequently used for other purposes. The largest number of volumes ever reported in district libraries was 1,604,210 in the year 1853. The decadence of the enterprise will be seen from the fact that in 1887, more than thirty years afterward, with all the added expenditure, there were but 737,716 volumes reported. Even these are found in the larger places where other libraries are common and where the school library consequently exerts but a small influence in promoting the original object of the State in entering upon the undertaking. Moreover, the fact that so large an appropriation is made annually and suffered to be so generally misappropriated, is demoralizing, for it works disrespect for all legislation. The difficulty seems to be, that the sum allotted to each district each year in those parts of the State where it is most needed is so insignificant as to preclude any substantial results.

"What shall be done? The common reply is that the appropriation may as well be discontinued. It is so much easier to destroy than to build up. To my mind, the discontinuance of the system is the last alternative, although we may have to resort to it. Our State was the first to undertake to establish libraries in connection with the common schools. It is able to go on with the undertaking if a practical plan can be devised for doing it effectively. With all of its drawbacks the system has worked out some beneficent results. The discontinuance of the appropriation would be disadvantageous to the districts which are putting it to good and proper use. If the appropriation is once discontinued, it will be difficult to procure its reestablishment for any similar purpose, and it would seem that

our great commonwealth can well devote such a sum annually to supplying information, or cultivating wholesome literary taste among the people, and that the friends of education and of literature ought to devise the way for putting the entire sum to that use and of accomplishing that purpose most completely and advantageously.

"If we are not to abandon the school library idea, then what? For the purpose of aiding, rather than of directing thought, I will indicate some crude suggestions which have occurred to me.

"(a) Change from the district to a town system, thereby providing for a larger library, which should be centrally located, or perhaps moved about the town, remaining a few months in each school district.

"(b) Continue the district system, but hold library moneys in the State Treasury until the accumulation in favor of each district shall be of some consequence, and then pay the same only in settlement of bills for books selected from an approved list.

"(c) Make no appropriation for a term of years and then pay the several years' accumulations at once, under regulations which would be likely to insure the object in view.

"(d) Let the State supply not the money, but the libraries, perhaps transferring them from one district to another after there shall have been time for reading a small library in a locality.

"(e) Abandon the old idea, but continue the appropriation and devote it to the purchase of books specially calculated to aid and help teachers and trustees, or for use in the school-room.

"State Superintendents have repeatedly advertised to this matter in communications to the Legislature, but without result. The present incumbent has so far refrained from doing so, only for the reason that it was deemed best to first devise a plan for meeting the difficulty which would command general support and give promise of accomplishment. For that purpose this communication will be forwarded to many of the more prominent and active friends of education in the State. With others, your opinion is respectfully solicited. To be of use to me in connection with the preparation of my forthcoming annual report, in which it is my purpose to consider the matter, your reply should be received no later than the 20th instant. If you will be good enough to give the matter some thought and advise me of your conclusions, you will have my most appreciative thanks."

FREE LIBRARIES AND FREE CATALOGUES.

From the Saturday Review, Nov. 24.

RATEPAYERS, as many polls have declared, are greatly divided on the question of the benefits to be derived from the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts. When, however, the decision of the majority is favorable, and the library is established, they may well be of one mind as to the necessity of a sound, intelligible catalogue. Now this appears to be the very last matter that engages the attention of local committees or Commissioners. The catalogues of our free libra-

ries are often extremely free compilations. A typical example is the Catalogue of the Free Public Library of Fulham, opened last month by the Bishop of London. This wild and wonderful production, it is to be hoped, is an extreme specimen of laxity and confusion, though we should feel surprise if it is without a parallel in the country. The worst of it is, it is put forth with a too-proud preface, in which the reader is confidently assured that "no difficulty ought to occur in finding any book in the library," owing to the alphabetical method of arrangement adopted by the compiler. For popular libraries this method of cataloguing books is excellent, if carried out judiciously. Clearness and accuracy should be the first characteristics of library catalogues. They are the more necessary where the number of well informed readers is inevitably small; yet clearness and accuracy are strangely absent from the Fulham catalogue. Mere misprints—and they are legion—may be pardoned in a first issue, though some of these are entertaining enough. Under British Museum "catalogues" we find one entitled "Columbine Snakes," a palpable misprint, and "Ruminant Plants," which is likely to leave the reader ruminant. This appears to be a humorous anticipation of scientific discovery, suggested by Charles Darwin's "Insectivorous Plants." On the first page of the catalogue we have three different ways of dealing with assumed names, not one of which is adhered to scrupulously throughout. The people of Fulham may rejoice, it seems, in five copies of Mrs. Oliphant's "Sir Tom," eight works of Aristotle, and only one book for lending—and that a narrative for juveniles—on Arctic discovery. Among the curiosities of classification, we find certain children's religious stories and Young's "Night Thoughts" credited to Theology. "Jack Sheppard" is considered to be a book for reference, not for lending and reading. In the same category is that pleasant book by Mrs. (sic) M. A. Tiltmarsh, the "Notes of a Journey from Cornhill to Grand Cairo." Shakespeare and Milton are both too precious for anything but reference. The mystery of "Ouida," still a mystery in the suburbs, is solved by the entry "Rame (M. de la), 'Ouida';" and "Frescoes," like Mr. Payn's "Some Private Views," is called "a novel." Four novels, all by Mr. W. E. Norris, are attributed to three persons, and the individuality of Mr. Huxley is exquisitely shared by "Huxley (T. H.)" and "Huxley (Professor)."

Among other subtle distinctions preserved by the painstaking compiler, the letter C alone produces "Craik (D. M.)" and "Craik (Mrs.);" "Crayon (Geoffrey)" and "Irving (Washington);" "Collins (W.)" and "Collins (Wilkie);" "Channing (Dr.)" and "Channing (William E.)." That fine old muddle of the brief and abstract catalogue—"Mill (J. S.) 'On Liberty';" ditto "On the Floss"—is cleverly emulated in such entries as:

Eliot Darien, a Novel by Warburton.
—(George) (Mrs. G. H. Lewes), the Spanish Gipsy.
Elizabeth (Charlotte), Judah's Lion.
—Age of, by Crichton.
King Alfred, Life of
—(Rev. David), Principles of Geology.
Woman's Kingdom, a Novel by Mrs. Craik.
—are Strange, a Novel by F. W. Robinson.

Will the librarian undertake to find with no difficulty the novels "Eliot Darien" or "Woman's are Strange"? After these samples of accuracy, it may seem a small matter to note that so popular a book as Mr. Haggard's "Allan Quatermain" is entered with only two errors. That industrious writer, John Forster—invariably spelled Foster—is supposed to be the author of contributions to the *Electric Review*. Or, if you take it that John Foster is meant, you find the "Life of Charles Dickens" among the works of this eclectic writer. Dr. Gairdner, the historian, is consistently styled "Gardiner," and a certain Lord Campbell is made responsible for "Log Letters of 'Challenger';" while on another page author and work are otherwise described, and again inaccurately. There is something appalling in these examples of wrong-headed ingenuity. Major Arthur Griffiths, for instance, is indifferently represented by "Griffith (Capt.)" and "Griffith. (A.);" with "Griffith Gaunt" between the two. The Catalogue is really inexhaustible. You never know what the next glance at its fruitful pages may produce. One more plum must suffice. "Wuthering Heights" is put down to two authors, Alice and Acton Bell, their sweet names, in this veracious list of the books of Fulham Free Public Library. On the whole, the question may be submitted to the delicate consideration of the Commissioners whether withdrawal or revision of the catalogue were the better for the comfort and instruction of Fulham people.

THE GROlier CLUB EDITION OF THE PHILOBIBLON.

THE Committee on Publication of the Grolier Club announce that owing to unavoidable delays in the editing, and in the preparation of suitable type and engraved ornaments, it has been impossible to issue, as early as anticipated, the long-promised new edition of the "Philobiblon." This work, it may be interesting to note, was written by Richardus d'Aungerville, an English prelate, called also Richard de Bury, who was born at Bury St. Edmunds, in Suffolk, in 1281. He was educated at the University of Oxford, and entered the order of Benedictine monks. On the accession to the throne of Edward III., whose instructor he had been, he was promoted to various offices of dignity, and was finally made Bishop of Durham, as well as Lord High Chapcellow and Treasurer of England. At Oxford he founded a library for the use of the students, which he furnished with the best collection of books then in England; and for the keepers of this library he wrote the "Philobiblon," which contains directions for the management of the library, and an elaborate eulogy of learning and the most charming treatise on the love of books, in Monkish Latin, which was first printed at Cologne, 1473, then at Spire, 1483, and finally at Oxford, 1599.

In his researches abroad Prof. West, of Princeton, discovered in the various public libraries of Europe a number of early manuscripts of the "Philobiblon," and has made an exhaustive study and collation of these, adopting the reading which, upon comparison, seemed to him authentic. The result, it is hoped, has been the pro-

duction of a text and translation which will probably hereafter be considered as the only true and genuine edition of Richard De Bury's treatise. All the early printed editions, without exception, have been found full of errors, and the translations based upon them are of course incorrect.

The new book will be furnished to subscribers as soon as it can be properly done, about April 1, 1889. The two volumes will be printed upon specially ordered hand-made paper, in red and black ink, with illuminated initials and suitable typographical ornaments. The price of the two volumes, one containing the Latin text, and the other the English translation, will be together somewhere between \$20 and \$25, based upon the cost of production. As the publications of the Grolier Club are intended exclusively for the benefit of its members, the committee has decided to publish an edition consisting only of the actual number of copies subscribed for, including several copies for Prof. West, to be presented by him to libraries abroad, and to persons who have extended courtesies to him during his investigations. In addition to this, however, three copies will be printed on vellum, one of which will be deposited in the library of the Club, and two will be disposed of at auction at a regular meeting of the Club. Members may subscribe for one, two, or three copies each, as desired, but no one will be entitled to take more than three copies. Subscriptions will be received up to the 10th of January next, when the lists will be closed and the printing proceeded with without delay.

The Publication Committee has also decided to issue, in a limited edition, and printed and illustrated in an attractive form, an article lately written by Mr. De Vinne upon Christopher Plantin and the Plantin-Moretus Museum at Antwerp. This book, it is hoped, will be ready early in 1889, and a prospectus of the same will shortly be sent to the members.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF METEOROLOGY.

From Science, Sept. 21.

As the literature of the several branches of science is increasing in volume, new scientific journals springing up every month, and valuable material being published in popular serials, bibliographical work comes to be an absolute necessity. This accounts for the numerous attempts at indexing the existing literature, and thus economizing the valuable time of scientists. A bibliography of any branch of science, once published, becomes the most fruitful source for further progress, as it is only thus that existing researches can be profitably made use of. Duplication of old work is avoided, and the compilation of the existing literature on a certain problem, which, without such an aid, is a source of indescribable annoyance and waste of time, is made easy. It is particularly in great scientific institutions, whose collaborators are numerous and frequently stationed in distant places, that, by the help of bibliographies of this kind, a large amount of labor and money is saved, the funds appropriated for their publication being thus well invested.

In meteorology the want of a bibliography is sorely felt. It is therefore with great gratification that we learn of the completion of the "Signal Service Bibliography of Meteorology"—a work anxiously looked for by all meteorologists and geographers. In its present form, it consists of a card-catalogue, which is in use in the bureau of the Signal Office. In his last annual report General Greeley, the Chief Signal-Officer, says:

"The practical value of such a bibliography has been fully shown by its constant use in current office-work, and, in addition to the official demands, almost daily calls for information have been received from parties not connected with the service. The result of this work is the collection of special bibliographies, which insures those consulting it a complete index of what has been accomplished in each special line of meteorology. As has been well said, the progress of meteorology is retarded, and labor therein wasted, owing to the impossibility of ascertaining what has been done in its various branches—an experience which, as scientific men well know, is by no means confined to this science. The cost of time and labor to the Government for the preparation of this work cannot be less than from \$12,000 to \$15,000; and the result of these labors has been the completion of a work which is of great value, both practically and scientifically, to the entire world. The catalogue in its present condition is valuable, and sufficient for the pressing needs of this service; but to view it in this light would evince a narrow and selfish disposition not in keeping with the scientific spirit of the age. At a cost of probably \$8,000 or \$10,000 this work can be printed and distributed to the world as a monument and evidence of the growing scientific tendency of this nation. If such action is taken by Congress, the Chief Signal-Officer has no doubt, from the willing spirit and hearty coöperation shown by leading scientists of other countries, that future international coöperation will secure by a system of rotation, from the various European Governments, the publication of a series of supplements which will keep the world abreast of the steadily increasing volume of meteorological publications. A large number of American and foreign meteorologists and librarians have given largely of their time and energy in the compilation of this bibliography, as is shown by the fact that over one-half of the material has been contributed from foreign countries; so that the bibliography represents not only a large expenditure on the part of the United States, but also many years of additional gratuitous labor. The material could not be duplicated, and it would seem but a respectable reciprocity of exchange that the Government should print the catalogue, so as to enable the voluntary contributors to avail themselves of the complete work. This fulfilment of obligations to contributors by a public catalogue is an act of justice; but, in addition, it should be considered that this bibliography will be of great practical value to the agricultural, commercial, engineering, and medical interests not only of the United States, but of the world."

The plan of this bibliography originated with Prof. Cleveland Abbe, who, in 1872, began a sys-

tematic collection of works bearing upon meteorology. Later on, he brought the matter to the attention of the leading European meteorologists; and at the meeting of the first meteorological congress, as well as at those of the international meteorological committee, it was indorsed, and steps were taken to carry out the plan. Dr. Hellmann and G. J. Symons were engaged in similar work; and at the Berne meeting of the international meteorological committee in August, 1880, letters of Dr. Hellmann were read, dated Jan. 20 and July 20, 1880, giving a detailed scheme for combining the various works and for the preparation of a catalogue, and embodying Mr. Abbe's proposal of August, 1879, as well as a similar one from Mr. G. J. Symons, of London. The committee, however, resolved that each country be requested to furnish lists of observations, and that Messrs. Scott and Hellmann be a sub-committee to consider the means of carrying out Dr. Hellman's scheme.

In the fall of 1881, Mr. Abbe wrote to Mr. Symons for more details as to his work. General Hazen, Chief Signal-Officer, then decided to purchase the catalogues of both these gentlemen, with a view to their combination and completion by the Signal Office in case the international committee did not do this. In November, 1881, Mr. Symons was authorized to prepare, at the expense of the Signal Office, a copy of all meteorological titles in his collection; and in Dec, 1881, Mr. Abbe's cards were purchased.

Mr. Symons' catalogue was received in Oct., 1883; and on March 4, 1884, Mr. C. J. Sawyer, Librarian of the Signal Office, was relieved from the care of the library, and, as bibliographer, ordered to devote his whole time to the completion of this work, which was then transferred from the library to the study-room division of the Signal Office.

At the second meeting of the international meteorological committee at Copenhagen, in August, 1882, Messrs. Scott and Hellmann reported that the Meteorological Office could not print the proposed catalogue, and that subscriptions were not practicable. They therefore recommended each meteorological service to publish a national bibliography, for which Hellmann's "*Repertorium der deutschen Meteorologie*," prepared in accordance with the ideas of the committee, and now just about to be published, should serve as a model. It need only be added that since 1882 the international meteorological committee have, with other meteorologists, acquiesced in the arrangement by which the Signal Service has undertaken to complete, and if possible publish, for its own and for general use, a general index to the literature of meteorology.

Up to April 12 of this year, Mr. Sawyer, has been engaged on this bibliography, and his estimate of the number of independent titles, including the year 1881 (which date was adopted as the close of the bibliography), is 50,000. At that time he had finished the classification of these titles by subjects, and most of the sub-classification, the author-index, etc.

Publications later than 1881 and prior to 1887 have been indexed, and will form a supplement, the work on which is almost completed.

So far, no provision has been made for the publication of this valuable work. The scientific as well as the practical value of the bibliography is so great, that its speedy publication is very desirable, even setting aside the danger of its being lost by accident to the building in which it is deposited.

THE TILDEN BEQUEST—DECISION OF JUSTICE LAWRENCE.

A DECISION in the case of *G: H. Tilden vs. Andrew H. Green* and others was rendered by Justice Lawrence in the N. Y. Supreme Court, Special Term, Oct. 22, upholding the validity of the will of S: J. Tilden, in respect to his bequest of his residuary estate. This was devised to "executors and trustees" provided for in the will, the thirty-fifth clause of which contained the following provision:

"I request my said executors and trustees to obtain, as speedily as possible, from the Legislature, an act of incorporation of an institution, to be known as the Tilden Trust, with capacity to establish and maintain a free library and reading-room in the city of New York, and to promote such scientific and educational objects as my said executors and trustees may more particularly designate."

But if such institution should not be so incorporated during certain lifetimes mentioned, or if the executors and trustees of the will shall deem it inexpedient to apply the bequest to said institution—

"I authorize my said executors and trustees to apply the rest, residue, and remainder of my property, real and personal, after making good the said special trusts herein directed to be constituted, or such portions thereof as they may not deem it expedient to apply to its use, to such charitable, educational, and scientific purposes as, in the judgment of my said executors and trustees, will render the said rest, residue, and remainder of my property most widely and substantially beneficial to the interests of mankind."

The plaintiff brought suit for the construction of the will and the annulment of the clauses mentioned, alleging that these provisions, to quote Justice Lawrence's statement, "are indefinite in their subjects and objects, invalid and unauthorized by law, and unlawfully suspend the absolute power of alienation of said estate." He contended that the gift was fatally uncertain, both as to its subject and object, and that the trust could not be supported by resort to the English doctrines of charitable uses or *cy pres* (nearest thing), since neither of these doctrines has place in the law of New York State. Among the defendants joined in the action was the Tilden Trust, which had actually been incorporated by the Legislature of New York March 26, 1887, in response to an ap-

plication from the executors and trustees of Jan. 4, 1887, in which they declared that they elected to confine the bequest to the establishment and maintenance of a free library and reading-room in the city of New York. Under this incorporation, Messrs. Bigelow, Green, and Smith added Messrs. Orr and Walker to make the necessary five trustees, and as executors conveyed to these trustees the residuary estate.

Justice Lawrence, in upholding the will, admitted that the doctrines of charitable uses and *cy pres* could not be resorted to, and mentioned incidentally that the specific bequests for libraries at Yonkers and New Lebanon were not included in the case or considered by him. His decision, therefore, goes directly to the gist of the matter, and upholds the validity of such general bequests. The contention that the primary gift is void because it is entirely within the discretion of the executors whether they will give anything or nothing to the Tilden Trust, he holds to be without foundation; nor is it void because no specific sum is mentioned in the will and the executors can give the whole or any portion of the residuary estate. The bequest is no more indefinite than that sustained in *Powers vs. Cassidy* (79 N. Y., 602), in which the testator left one-third of his residuary estate to be divided among such Roman Catholic institutions and in such proportions as his executors should decide. Nor is the provision void because it creates a trust not one of the express trusts provided for by Sec. 55 of the Statute as to Uses and Trusts, since the bulk of the property in the hands of the executors at the time of the conveyance to the Tilden Trust was personal property, and the statute applies only to real estate. He does not deem well taken the point that "the gift of the whole of the residuary estate to a future corporation is in conflict with the laws of this State establishing a uniform, consistent, and well-defined mortmain policy." He decides that the restrictions of the statute regarding perpetuities have been successfully obviated, and finally holds that as the testator's intention in regard to his heirs is clear and can be carried out without violating the rules of law, the provisions of the several articles should be harmonized and the benefit of every doubt given in support of the will.

This decision is given more at length in the New York dailies of Oct. 23, but we have summarized in plain language the salient points. It is of great importance, but unfortunately not final, as it was at once appealed to the General Term of the Supreme Court, and will thence go to the Court of Appeals, where a decision may not be had for three years.

We append some significant comment from the press:

"The decision, if sustained by the Court of Appeals, will put the city of New York in possession of the best public library in the world. Of course, there are many greater and more valuable libraries than any that can now be collected by any sum of money whatsoever, but the great libraries like the Bodleian, the British Museum, the National Library at Paris, the German University collections, and the Library of Congress, are not public libraries in the technical sense; they are not li-

braries from which every citizen can draw books and take them home to read. Nor is the Astor Library such an institution, still less the Lenox Library. The Tilden Library, as we understand the bequest, is to be in the fullest sense a library of the people. In this respect the benefaction is unique and unparalleled. The only things approaching it are the Newberry Library at Chicago, not yet fully established, and the Boston Public Library, an old and admirably conducted institution, which might well serve as a model for the Tilden Library when the trustees find themselves free to begin their work. The Tilden bequest is not only the foundation of the greatest public library in the world thus far, but it is the greatest benefaction that the city of New York or any American city has ever received. We do not recall any bequest to a municipality which can be compared with it, unless that of the Duke of Brunswick to the city of Geneva may equal it in amount. Every citizen of the Empire State will be proud of this noble monument of a great man when the intentions of the donor shall have been realized, and every one, whether his station be high or low, will be a partaker of the blessings which he intended to distribute.—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

"The contest over Mr. Tilden's will concerns the claim of the city to about \$4,500,000 for a public library, one of the most splendid gifts ever made for such a purpose. There could hardly be a better illustration of Mayor Hewitt's account of the composition of the city population than the small amount of interest taken by the public in this magnificent contribution to its higher welfare. Few seem to know, fewer still to care, much about the matter. If the will should be set aside and the money for the library lost, we doubt if there would be a word of lamentation, except something formal in the newspapers."—*N. Y. Evng. Post.*

"New York has a magnificent gift in the Tilden library trust, which Judge Lawrence, of the Supreme Court, has just decided is valid—provided the gift is finally confirmed by the Supreme Court in General Term and after that by the Court of Appeals. That admirable piece of machinery for the manufacture of law business and the enrichment of advocates, the New York appellate judiciary, takes about three years to thresh out a case of this kind, counting all the processes; and New York will be fortunate if it learns within two years whether it is to have the Tilden Library or not. . . . There has never been a more magnificent public library project than this. . . . We notice that the New York *Evening Post*, in an article on the Tilden bequest, mentions the Boston Public Library as one which might well serve as a model for the Tilden Library when the trustees find themselves free to begin their work. . . . Our own Public Library has been created since 1850, and the amount of real and personal estate which its trustees may receive and hold is limited to \$1,000,000. The great Newberry Library at Chicago is to have \$2,000,000. The rich men of the past never had within their reach such a wealth of books as the poorest may now have ready access to."—*Boston Transcript.*

THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARIANSHIP.

THE Board of Regents of New York State, at their meeting at Albany, Dec. 12, at which 12 members were present, received the resignation of their Secretary, Dr. David Murray, who had held the place since January, 1880, but who of late years has been of impaired health. It was accepted in very complimentary resolutions, to take effect at the end of the year.

"The resignation disposed of," said the *Albany Journal*, "a long debate followed as to the appointment of a successor to Dr. Murray as Secretary. The vacancy in the librarianship of the general library, temporarily filled by Assistant George R. Howell, was brought into the discussion. For some time the Regents have been looking about for a librarian of the first class for the State Library, but have been unable to procure one, owing to the insufficiency of the salary paid by the State. It was suggested in the debate that the offices of Secretary and Librarian might well be held by one man, and that thus a sufficient salary might be secured for the head of the library force. This idea seemed to impress all favorably, and on motion of Supt. Draper the office of 'Secretary of the Board of Regents and Director of the State Library,' with a salary of \$5000, was created. Chancellor Pierson directed each member to deposit a ballot expressing his choice for the holder of the new office. The ballots were unanimous for Prof. Melvil Dewey, Librarian of Columbia College. A motion of Supt. Draper was adopted continuing in office S. B. Griswold as head of the law library, and George R. Howell as head of the library of general literature, the two branches of the State Library. Mr. Dewey will be the general librarian, and Messrs. Griswold and Howell will be his subordinates. The meeting then adjourned until January 10.

"The Regents present were Francis Kernan, Henry R. Pierson, Martin I. Townsend, Charles E. Fitch, O. H. Warren, Whitelaw Reid, William H. Watson, St. Clair McKelway, Hamilton Harris, and Daniel Beach. There were also present of the *ex officio* members Lieut.-Gov. Jones and Andrew S. Draper. Gov. Hill was invited to participate, but excused himself because of other duties."

Articles on the State Library, on the new appointment, and on Mr. Dewey, have appeared in such profusion in the city and country press, as to be quite beyond possibility of record even by title in these columns. The *Critic* said that "Mr. Dewey has won an enviable reputation for intelligence and energy in his profession, and fully merits the encomiums called forth by his appointment to the important post to which he has been called." The *Tribune* speaks of him as a "brilliant young executive," "singularly capable and energetic," who may fairly be expected to make of this most important of State Libraries in the country "one of the greatest educational institutions in the State and the chief attraction at Albany." The *Evening Post* remarks that a vacancy

has been left at Columbia which it will be hard to fill: "Although not the largest college library in the country, nor so large as other libraries in the city, the effective arrangement, and the assistance afforded by Prof. Dewey's corps of trained assistants, have made it one of the most useful institutions in New York, both to members of the college and to the public, who have been welcomed to consult the books."

The following sketch appeared in the *Albany Argus*, which we reprint, despite certain inaccuracies and overstatements, condensing slightly:

"Melvil Dewey was born in Adams Centre, Jefferson County, Dec. 10, 1851. He was graduated from Amherst College 1874, and in 1877 received the degree of Master of Arts. In 1873 he took active charge of the Amherst College Library, remaining in that position, his first library experience, until 1876, when he founded the American Library Association, a national concern, of which he has been Secretary in full charge ever since its foundation. In that year he removed to Boston and devoted himself to popular education through the simplifying and systematizing of libraries and library work. He also, during the same year, founded the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, of which he was managing editor for five years and is still the largest contributor. He also became in that year the founder of the third great factor of library work — The Library Bureau — of which he became manager. The Bureau was incorporated in Boston with the design to equip libraries throughout the country at the least possible expense and in the best and most thorough manner. In the same year, 1876, he became the founder of the American Metric Bureau.

"In 1881 Mr. Dewey was urged to take full charge of the library department connected with the National Bureau of Education, located in Washington, but he felt obliged to decline. Five years ago he founded the New York Library Club, of which he is President, an organization comprising about seventy-five librarians of New York and vicinity. In May, 1883, he was called to Columbia College, when all the libraries attached to that institution were consolidated into one university library. Mr. Dewey was given charge of the entire library, and a new building costing \$430,000, the finest library building in the world, was erected. Three years ago he became the founder of the Columbia College School of Library Economy, of which he is now director. About the same time he started *The Quarterly Magazine of Library Notes*, he being the original and the present editor. Mr. Dewey is also the Secretary and most prominent and active factor of the American Metrological Society, with headquarters in New York. The system of standard time now in operation was an invention of Mr. Dewey's and was brought forward by him as a member of this association. About a year ago he was prominent in incorporating the Children's Library Association, of New York, which undertakes, and with wonderful success, to supply the poor children of the metropolis under twelve years of age with good books and illustrated papers, in the attempt to root out the growing love of the untutored child for trashy literature.

Mr. Dewey's wife was Miss Annie Godfrey, the first Librarian of Wellesley College, of which he was for many years consulting librarian."

On this the *Critic* remarks: "Mr. Dewey was not, strictly speaking, the founder, but one of the founders of the American Library Association, and of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. Nor have we heard it intimated before that he was the inventor of the present system of 'standard time.'" Mr. Dewey has not been connected editorially with the JOURNAL, nor "the largest contributor," for some years.

The Albany *Journal* says: "At this date Prof. Dewey is Secretary of 11 educational and library organizations. Prof. Dewey proposes to make the State Library what it is theoretically, the people's university in this State, and manage it much the same as he has Columbia College Library, which is conceded to be one of the best arranged and most convenient in the country. Many improvements will be made when he assumes charge. He has been superintending the laying out and arrangement of the new library quarters in the Capitol. Prof. Dewey promises to make the library one of the most inviting and easily accessible in the country. When completed, the State Library will be one of the best arranged and best equipped libraries in the world, and the credit of the work will be due to Mr. Dewey. It will be conspicuously a modern library, with all a modern library's economy of space, apparatus for the speedy handling of books, and excellence of arrangement."

The *Tribune*, Dec. 16, says of the State Library: "Mr. Dewey believes that the State Library can be so organized and arranged that it will be an important part of the State educational system. The library contains over 150,000 volumes, and is especially strong in books on American history. With a little care and a slightly more generous spirit in making appropriations for it on the part of the Legislature, it can be made one of the best libraries in the State and fully equal to the famous Congressional Library at Washington. Mr. Dewey would then have its present regulations for the use of books so modified that the professors of colleges, the teachers in public schools, and students generally, although not living in Albany, could draw books from it and read them. He would buy largely books bearing upon government, in order that the State Library may be an aid to the members of the Legislature. In fact, the library will be so arranged when it moves into its new quarters that the room adjacent to the Centre Room will be filled with books on political science. Here the member of the Legislature will find the books that he desires to aid him in legislation."

In a long editorial the *Tribune* approves of these plans. "With proper facilities it would be easy to extend its privileges to instructors in schools and colleges in any part of the State, books being sent to them under proper restrictions and returned. In this way a large number of professors and teachers who could not visit the capital would yet be able to avail themselves of the treasures of the library, and there can be no doubt that such a policy would have a stimulating and elevating effect throughout our whole

educational system. There is not the least practical difficulty in the way, if the Legislature will furnish the money to develop the library into a great and harmonious collection, and to keep the machinery of distribution going. The risk of loss in sending out books in this way would not be worth taking into account. Both the State Library and the instructors are under the general supervision of the Regents of the University, and for all practical purposes the books circulated in this way would probably be as safe as if they were read in the magnificent home of the library in Albany. But, aside from this, the experience of free circulating libraries such as the Boston Public Library,¹ and others elsewhere, including those in this city, shows that such privileges, when properly guarded, are seldom abused.

"But to carry out these plans the Legislature will need to exhibit a spirit of enlightened liberality. We have the foundation for a splendid library, but hardly more. For several years past the beggarly sum of \$5000 a year is all that has been appropriated for the purchase of books, while the city of Boston appropriates \$150,000 a year for its Public Library. The Library of Congress in Washington is largely fed with copyrighted books, while our State Library must pay its own way. It will have at least this advantage, however—that it will not be clogged up with the trash to which the Congressional Library is compelled to open its doors. The Empire State is big enough and rich enough to have a great library devoted not only to the service of its government, but of the whole people. We ought to see there in time a library to which scholars will resort from all parts of the State and even of the country. It presents a noble opportunity. The collection is now about one-fourth the size of the Congressional Library. In American history and some other departments it is especially rich. It has secured, thanks to the action of the Regents, the services of one of the most accomplished and energetic members of the library profession, who enters upon his work filled with an ambition to make this library the pride of the State. All that remains is for the Legislature to give such appropriations as the work demands.

New York Library Club.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the Executive Committee of the New York Library Club was held at Columbia College Library at 4.30 p.m., Nov. 1. Messrs. Berry, Bowker, Dewey, Nelson, and Tyler, and Misses Merington and Cutler were present. Bills of Burgoyne for printing, \$6.50, and of Nat. Press Intelligence Co., balance for clipping to July 1, \$22.68, and to Nov. 1, \$17.65, were approved.

The Treasurer reported \$17.90 in the treasury.

The question of continuing the clippings was

¹ The Boston Public Library circulates no books outside of Boston. — EDS. L. J.]

discussed, and it was decided to discontinue them from date. Mr. Bowker requested the Secretary to order them sent to the LIBRARY JOURNAL from Nov. 1.

Mr. Dewey moved that an assessment of \$1 for 1888-89 be levied on each member of the Club. Carried.

Messrs. Paul L. Ford and Charles P. Knight, of Brooklyn, Prof. H. Carrington Bolton, of New York, and Miss Susan H. Yerkes, Libn. Arthur Winter Memorial Library, Stapleton, Staten Island, were unanimously recommended for membership in the Club.

Mr. Nelson tendered his resignation as Secretary and member of the Executive Committee. Accepted, to take effect Nov. 6.

On motion of Mr. Nelson, Mr. Paul L. Ford was unanimously elected Secretary.

Messrs. R. B. Poole and Peoples were added to the Executive Committee.

The following topics were selected for the regular meeting of the Club to be held Nov. 8:

1. Facilities afforded readers in European libraries.

2. The treatment of pamphlets.

On motion of Mr. Dewey, a standing rule was adopted, That all officers of the Club be added to the Executive Committee, and that five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Ordered that at each meeting the program for the succeeding meeting shall be announced by the President. When the Executive Committee shall fail to prepare a full program the President is authorized to complete the same.

Voted that Mr. Paul L. Ford be elected chairman of the Committee on Library Statistics in place of Mr. Nelson, resigned.

Library Economy and History.

BATTERSEA. Free Library competition. (In *Builder*, Nov. 10, 1888, p. 333.)

Battersea has 170,000 inhabitants. Four premiums were offered for designs for a building to cost £6000, on a lot bought by the Commissioners. This first is said by the *Builder* to be "a well-arranged and good working plan—the news-room on the right of the entrance, the magazine-room on the left, the lending library extending almost across the rear frontage, the librarian's office being placed between it and the news-room. The one doubtful point in the arrangement is, perhaps, the lighting of the latter room, which has an end light only; and, of course, the same remark applies to the ladies' reading-room over it. The design placed second has an admirable plan, the lighting throughout being very good. It proved, we imagine, too expen-

sive. The design placed third is very similar to the chosen design in plan, but the lighting is inferior.

"The most original plan is that by Mr. Hanson. The distinguishing feature is the large oval top-lighted reference library on the first floor, with book-stores ranged in the spandril spaces outside. The most artistic elevations are those of Mr. Walter Lyon. They are in a refined variety of Renaissance, treated with much grace, freedom, and power; but they are handicapped by a plan which gives a library of 80 ft. in length lighted only at the ends."

COUDERC, C. Notice sur la Bibliothèque Nationale. Tours, Paris, 1888. 56 p. 12°.

FULHAM (Eng.) FREE P. L. View of the reading-room. (In *Illustr. London News*, Oct. 27, p. 482.)

The reading-room is 70 x 30 and 22 ft. high. It has five newspaper stands and tables. The ceiling is richly decorated. On the front of the building are the lending and reference libraries, the ladies' reading-room and the Commissioner's room on the first floor, the remainder being occupied by Mr. H. Burns, the librarian. The building cost £6000, and now contains 7000 volumes.

HALLETT, Caroline M. Parish lending libraries; how to manage and keep them up, with a list of books. London, 1888. 75 p. 8°. 1 s. 6 d.

KIEL, UNIVERSITÄTS-BIBLIOTHEK. Die Ordnungsprincipien. Für den dienstl. Gebrauch zusammengestellt. Als Mskr. gedr. [Lipsius & Tischer], 1888. 6 + 38 p. 8°. 2 m.

In the LENOX Library. (In *N. Y. Herald*, Nov. 25.) 1½ col.

"It is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on every day except Sunday and Monday, but it is open in the same sense that a museum is open and does not provide facilities for the general class of readers. The books are rare and out of the run of ordinary readers. Hence they are of use only to students and others who may desire to refer to them. Such persons are always welcomed and are freely given access to the shelves. For the public, however, no reading-room is provided, and to them the library is a literary museum, which they can wander through for hours, looking at the unique books on exhibition, and also an art museum, in which they can admire to their hearts' content many most beautiful statues, paintings, and other art work. A cordial welcome is given to all visitors, and the fact that the number of visitors increases each year proves that rare books, autographs, and paintings possess an irresistible attraction not only for students and artists, but also for *dilettanti* and the general public. Here it may be remarked that the popularity of the library has greatly increased during the past year, owing to the fact that visitors no longer require tickets in order to secure admission. Heretofore admission was only granted to those who presented cards signed by Dr. Moore."

PROVIDENCE P. L. The public library and its limited resources; signed W: E. Foster. (In *Providence Journal*, Nov. 6.)

VEUCLIN, V. E. *Anciennes bibliothèques normandes (1689-1731.)* Bernay, 1888. 36 p. 8°.

REPORTS.

Baltimore, Md. Enoch Pratt P. L. Total registration 35,207; total v. 66,828; issued 318,184 v. and 79,718 periodicals.

Baltimore, Md. Mercantile L. Added 2529 v.; circulation 50,749 v.; membership 1213; 84 periodicals on file; receipts \$6423.50; expenditures \$6121.

California State L. (Rpt. for 2 years.) Added 6612; total 68,465. It is requested that a neighboring driveway should be sprinkled, the annoyance and injury from dust being great.

"Many additions have been made to the collection of State and county maps, and to insure their preservation and to make them readily accessible for reference all have been mounted on spring rollers and hung on brackets. Each is numbered and can be found at once, by an alphabetical index."

Chicago Hist. Soc. Added 1302 v., 1813 pm. A complete special catalog of the Society's Americana has been prepared; one of history and biography is under way. An index of several thousand entries has been made to 100 bound volumes of pamphlets. The docs., reports, and collections relating to the different States have been placed in shelves and tiers, each State by itself. The Society corresponds with 66 others, from which it receives valuable exchanges.

Grand Rapids P. L. Added 4592; lost 2; total 21,835; issued 98,317; registration 6158.

"Above all other things stands the want of adequate and thorough cataloging, lacking which the library work of all kinds has not only been done at a disadvantage and with undue effort on the part of those inside, but the public does not and cannot receive the aid which it may justly ask. Thousands of the best works in the library are but little known; and, except by personal aid from the librarian and assistants in calling attention of seekers thereto, would prove of no more avail than as though the library did not possess them. But there is a limit to the scope of even personal assistance, however intelligently, cheerfully, and industriously rendered, which, in addition to the demands of other work and the disinclination of many readers to wait, or depend upon individual aid alone, does much to lessen the usefulness of the library."

Kansas S. L. (6th biennial rpt.) Added 2317 v.

New Haven F. P. L. (2d rpt.) Added 2706; total 8493; issued 138,574; membership 7970; new membership 2955. Receipts \$11,435; expenditures \$10,239.50.

Rochester, N. Y. Reynolds L. Added 1317; total 18,280; issued 15,653; opened 101 days.

San Francisco Free P. L. Added 714; total 49,475; books lost or stolen (since 1875) 324; home

use 89,313, lib. use 130,680. The Board report that the new librarian, J. V. Cheney, has taken hold of his work with zeal and intelligence; he reports an increase of \$10,000 in the appropriation, the approaching move into better quarters and the establishment of branch reading-rooms. Since Nov. 1, 1887, besides cataloging 15,000 v. the entire library has been checked off, a new handbook issued, a general reclassification nearly carried through, all blank forms remodelled, a list of duplicates and a deficiency list prepared, and a new registration begun.

Waterbury, Conn. Bronson Library. (19th rpt.) Added 1771; total 39,936; of the additions 1315 were purchased and 456 given; issued 52,136. Card catalogue completed.

NOTES.

Baltimore. Pratt Library. Some one writes to the *Nation*:

"It is not surprising that a writer in the *Nation* has not heard of the Pratt Library of Baltimore. It has not yet joined the ranks of libraries, in the modern sense of the word. Mr. Pratt's gift was a very handsome one, but the management of the library is at present in very unintelligent hands. No better way of giving out books has been devised than to make tired women and laborers stand in a long row until their turn is reached. My dressmaker has told me that she is going to join the Mercantile Library (the fee for which is five dollars a year), because she cannot afford the time required for waiting at the Pratt. Far from instituting courses of lectures, or any other means to show unbookish people what they want to read, it refused last year to allow its rooms to be used for such a course when other benevolent people were anxious to get one up. These are two instances out of many which might be given of how much it needs instruction in the ways which have lately been devised for making a library a centre of literary influence—such ways, for example, as Mr. Bemis has found to be so admirably successful in Buffalo."

Concord, N. H. Fowler Library. The library building given to the city of Concord, N. H., by W: P. and Clara M. Fowler, in memory of their father and mother, was dedicated Oct. 18. The dedicatory exercises consisted of an address by Rev. A: Woodbury, of Providence, R. I., a former resident of Concord; a poem by Abba Gould Woolson; presentation of building by W: P. Fowler; receiving of the gift, in behalf of the city, by Hon. W: M. Foster; singing by the Unitarian choir, and prayer.

Detroit (Mich.) P. L. The library commissioners have agreed, that if the Board of Education will make itself responsible for loss or damage, they will allow the scholars in the public schools to take out books.

Duflon, Pa. The Scientific School of Mining and library attached thereto situated at Duflon was entirely destroyed by fire Dec. 14. Ex-Senator Reckly B. Cox presented the library to the young men of the town who desired to study mining from a scientific standpoint.

East Haddam (Conn.) Free Library and Reading-Room was opened in Moodus, October 15. Within less than three months money has been raised, a building hired and remodelled, rooms have been furnished and books placed on the shelves. A subscription library has been given as a part of the new one, other donations of books have come from private sources, and several hundred new volumes have been purchased, until there are now 1500 ready for use, and 2000 more to be bought with money already subscribed. \$3000 have been collected in the town and \$500 a year pledged for running expenses for the next ten years. The officers represent all the trades, professions, occupations, and religious beliefs of the town. The library is a large, low room, well lighted both by day and evening, furnished comfortably and attractively in oak, with neat cocoa-matting on the floor, silk sash-curtains on the glass doors, and handsome chenille portière in shades of dull red at the entrance to a smaller room containing a collection of native and foreign curiosities. More than forty newspapers and magazines, including one in French and another in German, are on the tables and reading-stands, and the Poles, of whom there are many in town, are to have the pleasure of reading a paper in their own tongue. Readers are allowed to go to the shelves, but no books may be taken down by any one except the librarian. An arrangement is soon to be made by which the ten or twelve villages in the town of East Haddam may be supplied with library books once a week.

At the dedication service Hon. B. G. Northrop delivered a lecture on the history of free libraries in this country for the last forty years, dating the movement to establish them from the time when Dr. Francis Wayland gave \$500 to found one in the Massachusetts town which bore his name, on condition that a like sum should come from the town itself. After the lecture refreshments were served in the basement of the church, and the library was kept open for the delivery of books until 11 o'clock. The usual hours will be from 1 to 9 p.m., and Miss Hannah Brownell, Secretary of the Board, has promised to act as librarian for at least six months.—C. M. H., *Hartford Courant*, Oct. 18.

Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L. has been moved into the new City Hall. The rooms assigned to the library, we understand, have the usual evils of offices in a city hall; the light is bad, the ventilation doubtful, the conveniences both for library assistants and the public wanting.

Jacksonville (Fla.) P. L. The library has been renovated, and is once more opened to the public. It is now out of debt, and owns its building and land. A meeting is to be held on January 4 to take measures for the increase of the library's resources.

Jersey City (N. J.) F. P. L. A. A meeting of the citizens to take steps for the formation of the library was held on Dec. 4. A temporary constitution was adopted, and an executive committee appointed to manage the details. It was stated during the meeting that forty years ago a

free library was begun, but owing to political dissensions it was soon neglected, and after being lodged for some time in the First Presbyterian Church, most of the books passed to the junkman. The association will endeavor to secure the 6000 volumes at present in the possession of the Public School Free Library, as the basis for the new library.

La Crosse (Wis.) P. L. The dedication of the new library, the gift of the late Cadwallader C. Washburn, occurred Nov. 20. The library begins its existence with some 10,000 volumes, 4000 of which were donated by the Y. M. C. A. of La Crosse, which has also contributed \$2000. Miss Annie E. Hanscome, their librarian, takes charge of the new library.

Macon (Ga.) P. L. The directors have decided to erect a building which shall cost about \$10,000. \$2500 of this has been voluntarily subscribed, and more is expected. Any deficit in the whole sum will be met by an issue of bonds. The names of all who contribute \$1 or over will be inscribed on a bronze tablet to be placed in the new building.

Newark (N. J.) F. L. The Commissioners have accepted the offered building of the Newark Library Association, at the rental of \$3500. They also agreed to purchase some \$15,000 of the books of the association, but the book committee, on examination, only take a portion of them, as the works of reference are obsolete, and many of the other books worn out.

New Haven (Conn.) P. L. The proposition for the city to repair and give the use of the old State House to the Public Library is still unaccepted by the directors, who decline agreeing to the condition of keeping the building in repair. The State House Commissioners and the library directors are requested by the Common Council to consult as to whether to use the old building or build a new one.

New Orleans, La. Howard Memorial L. It is the intention of Mr. Nelson to make this a library of special value to the South. While not neglecting any branch of knowledge or literature, especial attention will be paid to gathering books printed in the South, works on the Rebellion, Southern newspapers, books by Southern authors, and agricultural works treating of the special Southern products.

New York. Within a stone's throw of the City Hall is one of the most curious and, in proportion to the capital invested, probably one of the best paying circulating libraries in the world. Its stock consists almost entirely of ten and twenty cent German and English novels in paper covers, only a few shelves being devoted to cloth-bound books.

Of the novels huge piles lie around in all directions, alphabetically classified and fairly well preserved. Those by the most popular authors have innumerable dog-eared, showing that they have passed through many hands since they came fresh from the press. The patrons of this library pay five cents for the privilege of reading a twenty-cent novel and three cents for reading a ten-cent one.

When they want a novel they pay the librarian half of its face value, and on returning it to him get back five or three cents, as the case may be. To messenger boys, factory girls, and budding clerks this mode of circulating desirable literature has proved so attractive that the owner of the books is doing a large business.

N. Y. Free Circulating L. The Board of Estimate allowed \$15,000 for the Free Circulating Library.

N. Y. Senate L. Two additional galleries have been built, which satisfactorily reduces the hitherto cramped condition of the books.

Paterson, N. J. The silk-workers' library will be opened about the beginning of 1889. The books are of a general character.

Pendleton (Oregon) F. L. The reading-room and library were opened with a reception Dec. 1. The old Pendleton library has been absorbed by the new association, and many of the local State papers have contributed a year's issue towards the reading-room.

Philadelphia, Pa. Memorial Presbyterian Church L. Two years ago the Rev. Samuel A. Mutchmore and his wife erected and presented to the church a building for a free reading-room and library. A fair was held for its benefit, which netted \$1600, and was used to purchase 3000 volumes, with which the library opened. This fall a second one was held, which brought \$800 to the treasury. A life membership is now given in return for \$25, which goes to form a library fund.

Plattsburg, N. Y. Railroad Y. M. C. A. L. Membership tickets, costing \$1, are issued to any one, giving the privilege to take out one book, which may be retained two weeks. The books will also be forwarded to any member living on the route of either the D. & H. R. R., or the Chateaugay R. R., at an additional annual charge of \$1. A catalogue of the 1500 volumes now in the library has just been printed and is sold for fifteen cents.

Port Jervis (N. Y.) School L. A new supplementary catalogue has been printed. 4000 v. have been added in the current year.

Portland (Me.) P. L. The new library building, which has cost over \$100,000, and is the gift of James P. Baxter, was turned over to the city on the 19th of Nov. It will also be occupied by the Maine Historical Society.

St. Louis, Mo. Mercantile L. The work of removing the books from the old to the new building has been begun. All use of the library will be suspended till after Christmas, tho the reading and periodical room is still usable. The books are removed in stretcher-boxes.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. The special committee on the technological department have issued a circular which states that "the suggestion that the manufacturers and employers of skilled labor in St. Louis contribute to establish a special collection of the best works on all the useful arts and trades as a department of the Public Library (which is free to all for purposes of reference) has

met with favor and promises of coöperation from all to whom the project has been personally presented. The management therefore (in view of the fact that the income of the library is barely sufficient for general purposes), feel warranted in making an appeal to the manufacturers and mechanics of St. Louis, and to all public-spirited citizens, for aid in this undertaking, which they believe will greatly contribute to the industrial development and to the moral improvement of the city in various ways."

San Francisco (Cal.) F. L. The library has been removed to its new quarters in the City Hall, and is opened once more to the public.

Savannah (Ga.) Catholic L. Assoc. The new building is nearly completed. The association numbers about 140 members, and the society has accumulated about 2600 v. in its library, which it hopes to increase on moving into its new building.

Washington, D. C. National Geological Survey Library. One of the most important and practically useful adjuncts of the Survey is its excellent library. The collection was begun in 1881, almost simultaneously with the establishment of the survey; and in the seven years that have elapsed, about 25,000 bound volumes and more than 40,000 pamphlets have been accumulated. . . .

A card catalogue of authors, embracing the entire library of books and pamphlets, and consisting of several hundred thousand separate entries, has been finished. In addition to this, there is now in process of preparation a bibliography of North American geology—a work that will require several years to finish—and also a bibliography of the official geological reports of the States and of the United States Government. The work upon the latter has been about one-third done.

Probably there is no department of the National Survey Library more highly prized than that of maps. Of these there are about 20,000 arranged geographically in drawers which admit of their lying flat. None of these are maps made by the National Survey, but they have been gathered from every available source, and constitute the largest and best collection of maps in the United States. A complete catalogue has been prepared, and the larger part of the maps are mounted on linen.

The library is admirably housed. The room devoted to its use is well lighted and ventilated, and not only admits of a most advantageous arrangement of the books, but it also affords excellent facilities for the work of the librarian's assistants, and conveniences for those who have occasion to consult the books. — *Science*, Oct. 5.

FOREIGN NOTES.

Barking, Essex. Nov. 27, 921 voted in favor of adopting the Public Libraries Act, and 241 against, out of a total of 2340 voters. This is the first parish in Essex that has adopted the Public Libraries Act.

Berlin. A queer statement comes from Berlin that the statistics of the free libraries show that foreign literature is more popular there than the

German national literature. Each volume of foreign literature was lent out last year at the rate of 5.3 in the year, and each volume of the national literature at the rate of 5.1 times. — *Tribune*.

Clerkenwell F. P. L. The Commissioners opened on Tuesday a news-room. This is preliminary to the erection of a permanent library building, on a site granted at a nominal rent by the Skinners' Company, which will include lending and reference departments, reading-room, and news-room. In aid of the library Capt. Penton, M.P., and Mr. R. M. Holborn have given donations amounting to £600 each, and other gentlemen have presented valuable books. — *Ath.*

Librarians.

BRADSHAW, H: Memoir of H: Bradshaw, Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, and University Librarian [1867-86]; by G. W. Prothero. 7+ [2] + 447 p. + portr. and facsim. O.

McKEE, T. H., Assistant Librarian U. S. Senate, has issued "Protection echoes from the Capitol," a work of 590 pp., 8", containing the leading principles of the protective policy, also the present tariff and the Mills bill, compared in parallel columns. The whole is alphabetical in arrangement.

RALSTON, W: Ralston Shedden, was born in 1828, and is a graduate of Trinity College, Cambridge. 1853-75 he served in the British Museum as an assistant librarian. In 1869 he published "Kriloff and his fables," and since then he has published a translation of Turgénieff's novel, "Dvoryanskoe Gnyesdo," "The songs of the Russian people," "Russian folk tales," and "The early history of Russia." He has also contributed a great number of articles to English periodicals, and was a corresponding member of the Imperial Russian Geographical and Historical Societies, of the Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg, and of the Nijni-Novgorod Statistical Society. He has become insane. He made an absurd application at the Bow Street Police Court, which he took for the Home Office. A constable thought he was drunk and detained him. The next day the magistrate released him on a friend undertaking to engage a keeper. He appears cranky on the subject of the White-chapel murders.

SCOTT, E. J. L., M.A., Assistant Keeper of mss. in the British Museum, becomes Keeper. He was educated at Marlborough and Lincoln College, Oxford. Mr. Scott published a metrical translation of the "Eclogues" of Virgil, in 1884; and edited the "Eikôn basilikê" in 1880, the "Records of the Grammar School of Harrow-on-the-Hill," and Harvey's "Prælectiones anatomicæ" in 1886.

WARNER, G. F., M.A., of Pembroke College, Cambridge, has been appointed Assistant Keeper of mss. in the British Museum. Mr. Warner compiled a "Catalogue of the mss. at Dulwich College," 1881; and edited for the Camden Society "The Nicholas papers" in 1883, and for the Roxburghe Club Jean Mielot's "Miracles de Nostre Dame" in 1885.

Gifts and Bequests.

Cambridge (Eng.) University Library has recently received two very valuable donations: (1) Dr. Venn's unique library of logical books, comprising more than 1000 volumes, and forming a complete record of the progress of logical science and teaching during the last 400 years. No public library in England possesses a series of logical works at all approaching this in extent and value. The formation of it has cost Dr. Venn many years of constant attention; and, as the subject is one that has been little taken up by bibliographers, the task of collection has demanded great special knowledge, as well as much labor and thought. (2) The Oriental books and mss. of the late Dr. George Percy Badger. This collection contains 16 Arabic and Syriac mss., a large number of scarce and valuable printed books, and a series of mss. and *adversaria* in Dr. Badger's hand, including the original copy of his English-Arabic lexicon. Among the Arabic mss. is the original from which he translated for the Hakluyt Society the history of the Seyyids of 'Oman. The *adversaria* include many blue-books and documents bearing on affairs in 'Oman, Eden, Zanzibar, and other parts of the East, with corrections and elucidations based on his personal knowledge of these regions. — *Acad.*

Cincinnati P. L. Busts of Daniel Vaughan, scientist, and Dr. Reuben Dimond Mussey have been presented to the library, and were placed on their pedestals, in the main hall, with appropriate exercises, Dec. 5, 1888.

Denver (Col.) Mercantile L. The late Mr. F. Z. Solomon, one of the directors of the library, left it \$2000 in his will.

Drew Theological Seminary L. Through the liberality of William White, of New York City, Drew Theological Seminary at Madison, N. J., has received an evangelarion of the eleventh century, containing the Four Gospels beautifully written on vellum; a lectionary dating from the eleventh or twelfth centuries, and of exceptional critical value; and the celebrated Joasaph Manuscript of Paul's Epistles, besides several other ancient works.

Fultonville, N. Y. Nov. 30, Hon. J. H. Starin presented a well-selected library of 1250 volumes to the Starin Benevolent and Industrial Association for the benefit of the village of Fultonville. The library is very coarsely established in handsome quarters. In order to help sustain the institution, Mr. Starin has given the Association the use of the spacious hall in the bank building, which will be let for choice entertainments, the proceeds to go for the benefit of the library.

Hinckley, Leicestershire. A free library has been erected, the gift of the Messrs. Atkins, in memory of their brother Arthur. The towns people purchased the land, and a legacy of £500 has been left by the late Mr. Stephen Malin to be spent on books. The reading-room is already in working order, and a pleasant feature is the influx there of factory girls during their dinner-hour. — *Ath.*

Cataloging and Classification.

Burlington (Iowa) Free L. "Mrs. S. B. Maxwell has completed the labor of compiling a new and well-arranged catalogue of the Burlington Free Public Library, and the manuscript is now in the hands of the printer. When completed and bound the new pamphlet will make a book somewhat in excess of the size of the old one, as several thousand new books have been added, by purchase and donation, since the city received charge of the institution. City Auditor Vogt, who is a member of the library board, is reading the proof on the new catalogue. This is rather a difficult task and one that requires exceptional care, a good eye, and a thorough knowledge of the books of the day and of the classic and modern writers on all the divers topics that men elect to discuss in the sanctity of the study. The free public library is one of the most popular of our institutions. The number of books taken out each month mounts up into the thousands, and is daily increasing. It is doing in its own peculiar way a work in culture and exercising an educational and inspiring influence that is worth more in the long run than any other missionary organization in the community."

GLOVERSVILLE F. L. Books for the young. 1. 4th, 5th, and 6th year of school. *n.p., n.d.* 3 l. O. — 2. 7th and 8th year. *n.p., n.d.* 3 l. O.

Books specially suited for boys are marked (*b*), for girls (*g*). The lists are distributed gratis.

GOTTLIEB, Theodor. Alte Bücherverzeichnisse aus Italien. (Pages 481-497 of *Centralbl. f. Bib.*, Nov. 1888.)

HAYN, Hugo. Thesaurus librorum Philippi Pfister Monacensis; catalogus bibliothecae selectae. Verzeichniss e. auserlesenen Sammlg. Bavarica, Monacensia, Judaica, sowie v. Werken aus allen Wissenschaften, wobei Rara u. Curiosa, im Besitze d. kgl. bayer. Regierungsrathes Philipp Pfister su München. Mit Anmerkgn. u. Registern. München [Uebelen], 1888. 8+603 p. 8°. 20 m.

POUGHKEEPSIE CITY L. Lists of books recommended for pupils' reading. High School, 1st. dept., Senior class. *n.p., n.d.* 4 p. Tt.

59 titles and a quotation from Bacon. Similar lists are prepared for 8 other grades. The librarian, J. C. Sickley, writes: "These lists were first issued over a year ago. Some changes and additions have been made, and the attempt made to render them more attractive, by specifying the grades and placing a short quotation on each. Their use during the past year was such as to encourage the plan of furnishing them for pupils."

STEFFENHAGEN. Die Ordnungsprincipien der Universitäts-Bibliothek Kiel. Für den dienstlichen Gebrauch zusammengestellt. Kiel, 1888. 6 + 38 p. gr. 8°. 2 m.

TOPEKA (Kansas) F. P. L. 1st suppl.: books added 1 Ja. 1880-1 Ja. 1887. Topeka, 1888. 88 p. l. O.

Classed, with series list, periodical list, and author index.

CHANGED TITLES.

"A recoiling vengeance," by Frank Barrett, N. Y., D. Appleton & Co., 1888, 12°, is identical with "By misadventure," same author, Chicago, Rand, McNally & Co., 1888, 12°, a fact which I didn't find out until I had shelved several copies of Appleton's ed. of the work, supposing it to be something entirely new. Rand's was pub. about Aug. 1. Appleton's, Oct. 1. — *W. A. Bardwell*. ["A recoiling vengeance" is the original English title. — Eds. L. J. *W. T. Peoples* also reports this.

"The drummer-boy, a story of the days of Washington," by Louis Rousselet, London, Sampson Low, Marston, etc., 1888, 12°, is same as *Ralph, the drummer-boy*, etc., tr. by W. J. Gordon, N. Y., Henry Holt & Co., 1884, 12°. — *W. A. Bardwell*.

Rénan's "Lectures on the influence, thought, and culture of Rome, etc., tr. by C. Beard (Hibbert Lectures, 1880), London, Williams & Norgate, 3d ed., 1885," and "English conferences, tr. by Clara Erskine Clement, Boston, Jas. R. Osgood & Co., 1880," are the same thing, except that the former includes Dr. Martineau's address, and the latter has an additional lecture on Marcus Aurelius. The English translation is much superior to the American, and has, besides, copious references to authorities, which are omitted in the American edition. — *K. A. Linderfelt*.

Bibliography.

APPERT, J., and CONTADES, G. de. Canton de Passais, essai de bibliographie cantonale. Marmers, Paris, 1888. 11 + 87 p.

BIBLIOGRAFIA storica astese. Torino, 1888. 71 p. 4°. (200 copies.)

BRINK, J. ten. Geschiedenis der Noord-Nederlandsche letteren in de 19^e eeuw in bibliographieën en bibliographieën, 1830-80. Deel 1. Amst., 1888. 12+455 p. 8°. 4.30 fl.; bd. 5 fl.

D'ARC, P. L. Bibliographie des ouvrages rel. à Jeanne d'Arc, catalogue des principales études historiques et littéraires depuis le 15^e siècle. Paris, 1888. 263 p. + engr. 8°. 5 fr.

DIAZ Y PÉREZ, N. Diccionario hist., biog., crítico y bibliográfico de autores, artistas, y extremeños ilustres, prec. de un prólogo de D. Franc. Cañamaque, y con noticias del autor por D. Fern. de Gabriel y Ruis de Apodaca. Tomo 2. Madrid, 1888. 12+622 p. fol. 30 pes.

EGERTON-CASTLE'S *L'escrime et les escrimeurs depuis le Moyen Age jusqu'au 18^e siècle*; tr. de l'anglais par Alb. Fierlants, Paris, 1888, 48+289 p., 4°, 20 fr., has a "bibliographie."

ENGEL, A., and SERRURE, Raymond. *Répertoire des sources imprimées de la numismatique française*. Tome 1. Paris, 1888. 19+399 p. 8°. 15 fr.

FERRARI, Ferruccio. *Bibliografia boccacesca*. Firenze, 1888. 13 p. 8°.

Extr. fr. the *Revista delle biblioteche*, no. 5-7.

FRIZENSCHAF, Johannes. *Führer durch die periodische Presse d. deutschen Katholiken im deutschen Reich, in Luxemburg, in Oester.-Ungarn, in d. Schweiz u. in den Verein. Staaten v. Nordamerika*. Stuttg., Wildt'sche Buchh., 1888. 13+112 p. 8°. 1.60 m.

HALVORSEN, J. B. *Norsk forfatter-lexikon, 1814-80*. Paa grundlag af J. E. Krafts og Chr. Langes "Norsk forfatter-lexikon, 1814-56." Bd. 2. Krist., 1888. 797 p. gr. 8°. 12.50 kr.

The HARTFORD L. ASSOC.'s bulletin for Nov. has two interesting notes: 1. How to find quotations. 2. How to work at prize questions. In the latter (1½ p.) the question, "Why was Charles I. called the White King?" is taken as an example and the inquiry followed through twenty books. It is a good specimen of such research.

HARVARD UNIV. L. *Mathematical theses of junior and senior classes, 1782-1839*; by H. C. Badger. Camb., 1888. 14 p. l. O. (Bibliog. contrib., no. 32.)

KNOD, Dr. G. *Zur Bibliographie [Jakob] Wimpfelings*. (Pages 463-481 of *Centralbl. f. Bib.*, Nov. 1888.)

KÜHL, W. H. *Führer durch die gesammte Uhrmacher-Literatur*. Berlin, 1888. 31 p. 16°. 20 pf.

H. KÜHN's *Lehrer als Schriftsteller*, Lpz., 1888, 192 p., 8°, has an "Angabe ihrer literarischen Erzeugnisse."

Fr. de LA MOTTE's *Antiquités d'Harfleur*, Rouen, 1888, 20+227 p., 4°, has a "Liste bibliographique, par Em. Lesens."

LUQUE Y MARTINEZ, D. C. *Indice bibliográfico de las obras pub. por los profesores de escuelas de comercio y de institutos, con aplicación á la enseñanza mercantil por peritos y profesores mercantiles y catedráticos de enseñanza privada*. Madrid, 1888. 23 p. 4°. 1.25 rs.

MITTELMANN, H. *Katalog der existierenden Briefmarken-Zeitungen*. Mährisch-Ostau, 1888. 16 p. 12°. .25 m.

MONOD, G. *Bibliographie de l'histoire de France, catalogue méthod. et chronol. des sources et des ouvrages rel. à l'histoire de France jusqu'en 1789*. Paris, 1888. 12+420 p. 8°. 9 fr.

MONTAIGNE'S *De l'institution des enfants*, nouv. éd., Paris, 1888, 143 p., 12°, has a "Bibliographie," par Fél. Hémon.

NERI, Ach. *Gli statuti di Mioglia; notizia bibliografica*. Genova, 1888. 12 p. 8°.

NIZET, F. *Bibliographie de Léon XIII. d'après le catalogue idéologique*. Brux., 1888. 9 p. 8°.

PETIT, L. D. *Bibliographie der middelnederlandsche taal-en letterkunde*. Leiden, 1888. 16+298 p. gr. 8°. 4 fl.

PETIT, P. *Quelques additions à la bibliographie générale des ouvrages sur la chasse, la vénerie, et la fauconnerie de R. Souhart*. Louviers, 1888. 87 p. 8°.

PÖLCHAU, A. *Die livländische Geschichtsliteratur im J. 1887*. Riga, 1888. 83 p. 16°. 1 m.

QUARITCH, Bernard. *Bookbinding; catalogue of 1500 books remarkable for the beauty or the age of their bindings or ownership by great collectors, etc.* London, Nov. 1888. 200 p. O. (no. 93).

REBOUL, R. *Biographie et bibliographie de l'arrondissement de Grasse*. Grasse, 1888. 336 p. 18°. 5 fr.

RIETH. *Repertorium der technischen Journal-Literatur*. Im Auftrage des K. Patentamtes hrsg. Jahrg. 1887. Berlin, 1888. 10+432 p. Lex. 8°. 15 m.

SCHEFFLER, W., and SAHR, J. *Verzeichniss von Bildwerken u. Bildern auf die ital., französ., u. eng. Lit.-u. Culturgeschichte bezüglich (Dante, Shakespeare, Walter Scott, Burns, Molière, u. Sandeau)*. Ausgestellt beim 3n. allg. deutschen Neuphilologentag zu Dresden, 29. u. 30. Sept. u. 1. Oct., 1888. Dresden, 1888. 68 p. gr. 8°. 1.50 m.

SCHULZ, A. *Die floristische Lit. für Nordthüringen, den Harz u. den provinziälsächsischen wie anhaltischen Theil an der norddeutschen Tiefebene*. Halle, 1888. 90 p. gr. 8°. 1.50 m.

SHERBORN, C. D. *A bibliography of the foraminifera, recent and fossil, 1565-1888*. London, 1888. 8°. 5 sh.

THOMMEN, R. *Schriftproben aus Handschriften des 14.-16. Jahrhunderts*. Basel, 1888. 18 p. +20 Taf. 4°. 8 m.

TRAPHAGEN, Fr. W. *Index to the literature of*

columbium, 1801-87. Washington, D. C., 1888. 2+27 p. 8°. (Smithsonian misc. col., 663.)

TUCKERMAN, Alfr. Index to the literature of the spectroscope. Washington, 1888. 7+423 p. 8°. (Smithsonian misc. col., 658.)

VERZEICHNISS sämmtl. Schriften üb. Geflügelzucht, Stuben-, Zier- u. Singvögel, Nutzen u. Schaden der Vögel, Vogelschutz, Naturgeschichte der Vögel u. ihrer Eier, Kaninchenzucht, welche 1850-88 (Juli) im deutschen Buchhandel erschienen sind. Lpz., 1888. 36 p. 8°.

Arthur E. WAITE's Lives of alchemistical philosophers, London, 1888, 315 p., O., has an "Alph. catalogue of works on the hermetic philosophy and alchemy," p. 276-306.

Oliver WARDEOP's Kingdom of Georgia, London, 1888, 202 p., O., has a Bibliography, p. 171-196.

ZEITSCHRIFT für romanische Philologie; hrsg. von Gustav Gröber, 1886. Suppl. heft 10. (10 Band, 5. Heft): Bibliographie 1885, von Willy List. Halle, 1888. 5+124 p. gr. 8°.

ZUSAMMENSTELLUNG der innerhalb der letzten 10 Jahre in deutscher Sprache erschienenen Literatur auf dem Gebiete der Photographie u. des photog. Druckverfahren. Düsseldorf, 1888. 23 p. 12°. .40 m.

The French Minister of Commerce has appointed in connection with the Universal Exposition of 1889 an organizing committee for the International Congress of the Bibliography of the Mathematical Sciences.

INDEXES.

Index to APPLETONS' annual cyclopædia, 12 v., 1876-87. N. Y., 1888. 144 p. l. O.

Table des tomes 31-40 (1870-79) de la BIBLIOTHÈQUE DE L'ÉCOLE DES CHARTES, suivie de quatre tables générales sommaires des tomes 1-40; par Eugène Lelong. Paris, 1888. 3+236 p. 8°. 5 fr.

NOUVELLES annales de la construction. Table des matières, 1876-87. Angers, 1888. 53 p. 16°.

POOLE, W. F., and FLETCHER, W. I. Poole's Index to Periodical Literature. 1st supplement, Jan. 1 1882 to Jan. 1 1887. With the coöperation of the American Library Association. Boston and N. Y., Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1888. 13+483 p. l. O.

PORTFEUILLE des machines; table des matières, 1876-87. Angers, 1888. 76 p. 16°.

REVUE africaine, journal des travaux de la Société Historique Algérienne. Table générale (1856-81). Alger, 1888. 8+314 p. 8°.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

From 18 to 20. Says the *Lutheran Observer*: "The author of 'From 18 to 20,' a new society novel whose authorship has puzzled all Philadelphia, is Miss E. Jandon Sellers, the young daughter of D. W. Sellers, Esq., one of the leaders of the Philadelphia bar, and law-partner of Judge Mitchell."

View of the proposed constitution, Phila., 1787, was written by John Nicholson. — P. L. F.

An address from an officer of the late Continental Congress [Phila.: 1787] was written by William Findley. — P. L. F.

Life of Isaac Hill (printed in Concord, N. H., in 1835) is by Cyrus P. Bradley. — K. A. LINDELFELT.

Memoirs of the late Benjamin Franklin. . . . London: 1790. Jonathan Boucher writes of this as "Mr. Wilmer's memoirs." Can any one supply full name? — P. L. F.

Q. T: Purnell who has used this signature in the *Athenæum*, *Globe*, *Judy*, and in a book, "Dramatists of the day," writes to the *Athenæum* (p. 485) that he is not the author of "Dead man's rock" and "Troy Town," lately issued under this letter by Cassell, who is guessed to be Mr. Arthur Quilter Crouch, an Oxonian, and a member of the literary staff of Cassell & Co. — *Critic*.

Mr. W: Cushing furnishes us the following: *Julian Warth*, ps. of Mrs. Julia Warth Michael Parsons.

L. L. L. and *Lillie Lull*, ps. of Mrs. Lillie Lull Lombard.

Mrs. Peleg Newshy, ps. of Mrs. Abigail A. Evans (Aunt Nabby papers, Boston, 1888).

Nora Helen Wardell, ps. of Miss Evelyn L. Dwyer.

Thomas J. Todd, ps. of Frank Carpenter.

Andrew Hedbrooke. In Cushing's new volume of "Pseudonyms" the name of Edward Rowland Sill is treated as a pseudonym for Andrew Hedbrooke. Reading Miss Phelps' notice in the *Sept. Century* led to an inquiry which produced a reply from the widow of the poet, under the signature of Mrs. E. R. Sill. — A. W. WHELFLEY. [Probably this was a transposition in the book of the assumed name and Mr. Sill's real name. — Eds. L. J.]

Baylor, Miss F. C. *L. j.* 10: 384 [not 348 as the *Index* has it]. The statement of the *Critic* is erroneous. Her name is still Baylor. — J: EDMANDS.

The Duchess, according to E. W. B. in the *Bookbuyer*, Nov., 1888, p. 407, is not Mrs. Maggie Argles, but Mrs. M. Hungerford.

George Sand. "Princess Nourmahal," lately published as a translation by Lew. Vanderpoole from the French of George Sand, is evidently not by her. See *Nation*, Nov. 15, p. 396.

Jean Kincaid, ps. of Mrs. Estelle M. Hatch Merrill, born in Maine, correspondent of Boston *Globe*.

O. A. W., meaning Only a Woman, ps. of Katharine Floyd Dana in *Hunt's merchants' magazine*. — Preface to her "Our Phil."

Olive A. Wadsworth, ps. of Katharine Floyd Dana in stories in the *Atlantic*, now published in a volume under her name.

Parke Danforth, ps. in "Not in the prospectus" (Bost., Houghton, M., & Co., 1887, 12") of Hannah Lincoln Talbot, who lives in Portland, Me., cor. of Parke and Danforth Streets. — W. A. BARDWELL.

Pinus Strobus, ps. of Elizur Wright, in "The voice of a tree from the Middlesex Fells," Boston, 1883. — ALICE G. CHANDLER.

Richard Penfield in "Luelle, a southern romance," is a pseud. for Louis Pendleton. — J: EDMANDS.

S. D. S., Jr., in "Hallo, my fancy," stands for S. Decatur Smith, Jr. — J: EDMANDS.

Among the contributors to *Knight's quarterly mag.* Peregrine Courtenay and Vyvyan Joyeuse were pseudonyms of Winthrop Mackworth Praed; William Payne and Martin Danvers Heaviside were names used by Matthew Davenport Hill. — Memoir of M. D. Hill, Lond., 1878, p. 67.

Humors and Blanders.

FROM a newspaper of 1880, Waldo County. There are in the Sears public library, Searsport, 161 volumes of the French Encyclopædia edited by Diderot and D'Alembert. These books are said to be the only set to be found outside of Berlin. [!!!] Good judges have pronounced them worth \$1000.

HAVE you a poem on the Victor of Manengo, by Anon?

COPIED from a call slip: S. L. Clemens, Mark Twain's Scrap-Book.

IN the Rules of a town library in Massachusetts it is stated to be the duty of the librarian "to carry out such directions of the trustees as will aid in extending the efficiency of the library." It is not stated what is to be done with such directions of the trustees as will not aid in extending the efficiency of the library, nor who is to decide which class any given direction belongs to.

A ST. LOUIS girl asked a library attendant, "Who crossed the Alps first?" "Hannibal," was the reply. "Did he cross them before Napoleon?" was the second naïve question. "Certainly; he lived before Cæsar's time." "Cæsar—when did he live?"

A YOUNG lady wanted Marion Crawford's "Saracinesca" and wrote on the slip "Cyrus and esca." Another young lady wanted Bertha Clay's "Throne on the world." One boy wanted one of Oliver Twist's books about "Little Dorritt," and another asked for one of Roe's books, but he didn't want "Hain't got any home."

THE *Troy Budget* is responsible for the following: Chancellor Pierson recently sent for one of his superannuated clerks and said to him, "Mr. —, the board has had in contemplation some changes in the library, and after mature consideration it has been decided that it would be best for you to resign." Promptly came the reply, "I do not think so, Mr. Pierson, I am on some important work, and I do not wish to leave it unfinished." Mr. Pierson was obstinate, however, and said if no one else could finish the work the board would be compelled, reluctantly, he confessed, to roll it up and lay it away among the archives; so the clerk consented to hand in his resignation, which he did on the following day, but it read "to take effect next November." It is needless to add that more vigorous measures than requests for resignations were promptly resorted to.

A LADY came repeatedly to get "She," and was very much provoked that it was never in. At last we found that she wanted "Seth's brother's wife."

ON page 599 of *Le Livre* for November there is a résumé of Emile Cère's article on "Library reforms" in the October no. of *La Nouvelle Revue*. The reviewer seizes the opportunity to inquire why such glaring typographical errors are allowed to appear in the spelling of names, as an example of which he cites: "The famous circulating library of *Muddie* (!) appears as *Madie*, etc." — K. A. LINDERFELT.

FROM a Sale Catalogue, Nov. 22-23, 1888: 661 Phædon, or Dialogue on the Immortality of the Soul, by Pluto. First American, from the rare London edition. 12mo, boards. (Water-stained.) Published by W. Gowan. Scarce. N. Y., 1833. It has not been hitherto known that this person ever appeared in print over his own signature.

THE following have been called for at the Brooklyn Library: "Consawella," by George "Sands," "Annie Carrie Nana," Tourgée, Black "eyes," Alger, "Raged" Dick. Bayly, We "too," Crawford, Sequel to "Saracinesque."

MR. SCHWARZ has so frequently indulged in humorous articles at the expense of members of the guild, that his victims at least will enjoy seeing how the very types in his own Finding list have turned upon him. We quote from Part 3 — Fiction — some examples of the "unconscious humor" of the head-lines: Abandoned to Agnes Serle; Artist's love to Beautiful fiend; Beautiful unknown to Brandon; Cousins to Denis Duval; Deserted wife to Driven from the path; Dropped from the clouds to Eustace diamonds; Flirtations in fashionable life to Gemini; Home scenes to Innocents from abroad; Mildred's wedding to Mount Sorel; Phemie Frost's experiences to Professor Conant; Reflection to Runaway match; Running the gauntlet to Servant-girl of the period; So they were married to Strife; and Seven daughters to Telegraph boy.

We should not have been surprised at finding some of these in the catalog of the new library at Salt Lake City, but to see them in the Finding list of the staid Apprentices' L. is rather startling. — C. A. N.

Index to Periodicals.

The volume for 1888 will be completed by an author-index, for which subscriptions are invited at \$1. It requires over 250 subscriptions at this price to cover manufacturing cost.

The volume for 1888, with author-index, bound in half leather, will be furnished at \$3. That for 1887, same price. These two supplement the new Poole's Index to January, 1889, and both together will be furnished at \$5.

The issue of the Poole supplement (1882-6) increases the value of the QUARTERLY INDEX, as its continuation, and librarians should keep copies, in temporary binders, at their delivery-desk as well as alongside Poole on their reference-shelves. Such binders are provided at \$1 each, with label giving "Directions for Finding Articles in Periodicals," or the label will be furnished subscribers on application.

The subscription price is \$2 per year. Since the considerable cost and insufficient return under present circumstances make it impossible to continue the INDEX as a *gratis* supplement to the LIBRARY JOURNAL, subscribers to the latter will be charged but \$1 per year per copy.

Please send subscriptions for 1889 and orders for subject-index 1888 promptly to

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

The American Catalogue

Announcement is made of the new volume of the American Catalogue, which will cover the period 1884-1890.

The edition will be 1250 copies only, and there will be no reissue. Subscriptions will be received prior to Jan. 1, 1890, at \$10 in parts (\$2.50 extra for A. L. A. half leather binding), payable one-half during January, 1890, balance on delivery. The publisher reserves the right to increase price thereafter.

About 100 copies each remain of the Subject Catalogue of 1876 (of which 250 more than of the Author Catalogue were printed), and of the Catalogue of 1876-84. Price, \$12.50, sheets; \$15, half leather, each.

While the immediate usefulness is, of course, less than to the original subscribers, who have had several years' use, these Catalogues are of permanent bibliographical value in any library or book-store, or to any collector, and with the exhaustion of the edition, their market price is likely to increase, as has been the case with the Author Catalogue of 1876.

The publisher is desirous of placing them with new and growing libraries, or with librarians, booksellers, or others, likely to become subscribers to the ensuing volumes.

He therefore makes the following clearance offers:

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